

# JOY & PEACE TO ALL THE WORLD

The last Gift Guide! Are you done your shopping? >Pages 13-16

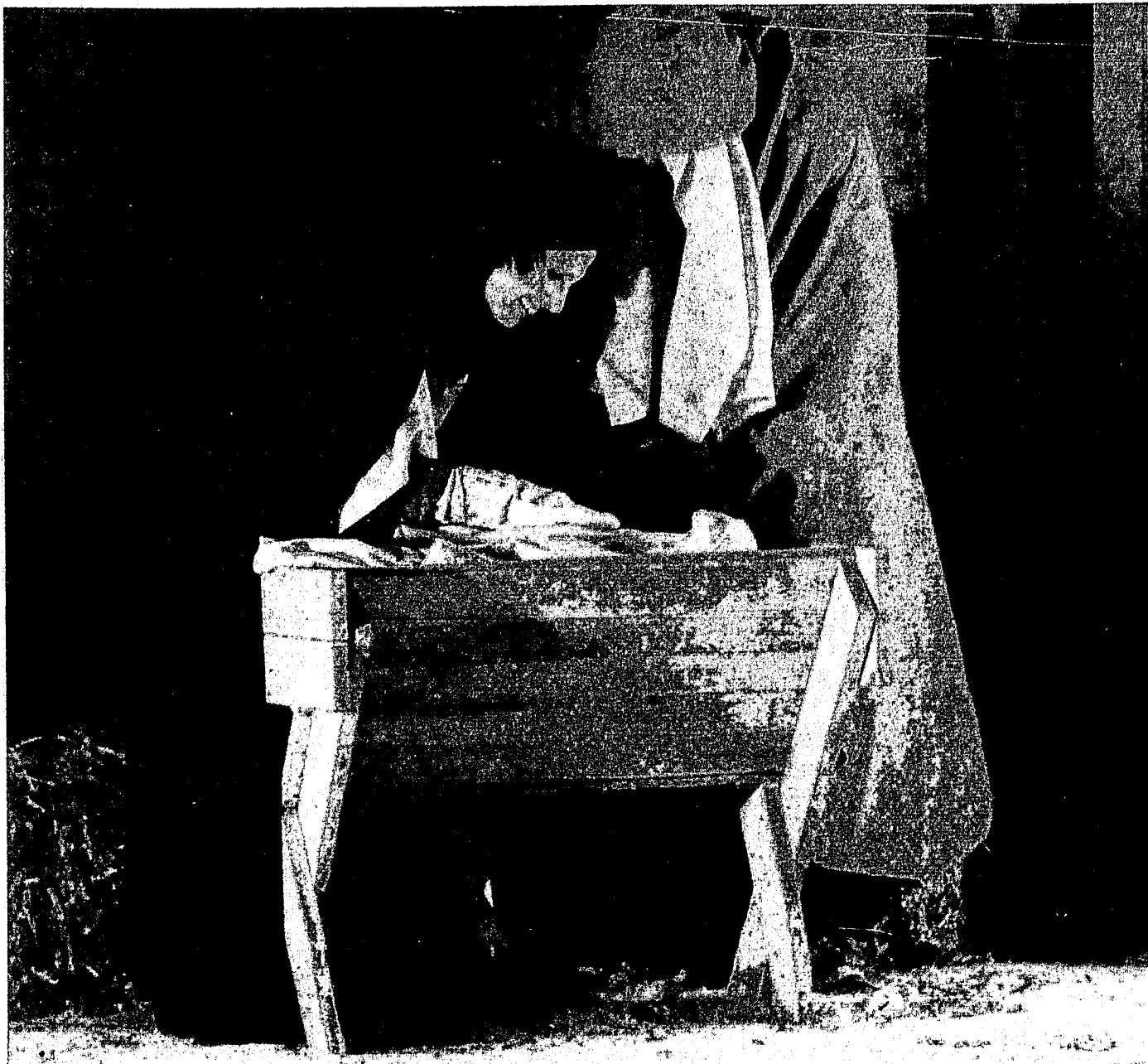
## The Bethel Citizen

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Thursday • December 24, 2015

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BETHEL'S ANNUAL LIVING NATIVITY took place Sunday evening on the Common. Mother Nature provided a dusting of white and cold temperatures, bringing a touch of traditional New England Christmas weather before returning to the unusually warm temperatures. Here, Paige and Jarrod Crockett and their four-month-old son, Foster, play the parts of the Holy Family. Photo: A. Aloisio

### Bethel Comprehensive Plan committee called "dysfunctional"

Does Bethel need a plan?

By ALISON ALOISIO

Bethel's Comprehensive Plan committee has been in existence for two years but has accomplished little and members are now in a stalemate on how to proceed, selectmen learned at their meeting last week.

Some residents wondered whether there should even be a plan.

The panel is charged with updating the CP, which was first done in 1998. Bethel is required to have the plan by law because the town imposes impact fees in the form of a Sewer System Development Charge (hookup charge), designed to accommodate an increase in water flow from increased development, according to town officials.

In addition, said committee member and Bethel Planning Board Chairman Mike Charron, the plan also provides guidance to the Planning Board. Comprehensive Plans are designed to provide a broad blueprint of a town's values and priorities for the future, particularly in the context of development.

Selectmen met Monday with some members of the CP committee, as well as with John Maloney of the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments, which offers services to advise towns on the plan process.

CP member Fran Head wondered if the 1998 plan could simply be updated, with an eye to current state requirements. She said she had been involved in a CP process in Gilead in the past, and that approach had been used successfully.

Sarah Tucker, Bethel's planning assistant, has been assisting the committee. She said the panel has "a profound disagreement on how to proceed. Fran believes we should take the existing plan and do a 'red line' and rewrite

the existing Comprehensive Plan. Other members feel we should start brand new - disregard the existing document - and until that's clarified I don't see us moving forward."

Charron said that while he believes there is information that can be taken from the old plan, "to just update doesn't make sense." He said the town needs a "vision" for the future, and an update "doesn't show us the road ahead."

Al Cressy, who was recently appointed to the committee, said he had at-

See PLAN, Page 2

### Land Trust plans Noyes Mt. parcel buy in Greenwood

The Western Foothills Land Trust of Norway has launched an effort to raise \$270,000 to purchase a 295-acre parcel on Noyes Mountain in Greenwood, according to a press release.

The purchase will protect the iconic view of the undeveloped mountain that frames the northern view down the reach of Norway Lake, a view the release said is seen by at least 8,000 vehicles a day on Routes 117/118, according to MDOT statistics.

The purchase will also protect public access to views from the 1,500 foot summit, ledges, 1,000 feet of stream habitat, 14 acres

of working fields, and 280 acres of working forestland in a large block of woodlands providing significant habitat for wildlife, according to the release.

The Noyes parcel also provides habitat for rare plants and two rare natural communities.

The trust will provide trails for bikers, horseback riders, runners, snowshoers, skiers, rock hounds, and hikers. WFLT will continue to allow hunting.

In addition, the trust will provide public programs like bird walks and snowshoe walks and will manage

See NOYES, Page 2

### Bethel drug task force plans survey

By ALISON ALOISIO

The Bethel Area Prevention Task Force, fueled by a \$70,000 grant, has met twice so far and is aiming first toward a written community survey to gather information to help in the fight against drug abuse in the Bethel area.

Of particular concern is an increased use of alcohol and marijuana by middle-school aged youngsters in Oxford County, said Patricia Duguay, executive director of the River Valley Healthy Communities

Coalition. The coalition is overseeing the first steps of the task force effort.

The panel's focus is on underage drinking, prescription drug misuse and marijuana use prevention strategies, Duguay said. Noting the increased use of heroin in the region, she said most users do not start with that drug. "If we can reduce youth use of these substances we hope to reduce the heroin users of the future," she said.

See FORCE, Page 2

### Local residents arrested as part of heroin network - Page 2



THE 80S RETURNS-The retro ski look will be seen in full force Jan. 9, when the Ski Museum of Maine stages its second annual Vintage Ski Fashion Show, featuring dozens of decades-old outfits for men and women. Shown here are Shana Dutterer, left, and Marion Thurston. Both one-piece ski suits are from the 1980s. The show will be hosted by the Bethel Inn as a fund-raiser for the Ski Museum of Maine. For more, see Page 5. Submitted photo

See NEWRY, Page 6

### Newry Withdrawal Committee slams SAD 44 board over letter

District: Further negotiations not likely to lead to withdrawal agreement

By ALISON ALOISIO

"It's like telling mommy that somebody did something bad."

That was how Newry



Withdrawal Committee member William Andrews viewed a recent letter sent by the SAD 44 School Board to the Commissioner of Education. The letter was critical of the NWC for not having full representation at last month's mediation meeting.

The two parties have been trying for a year to

come up with a withdrawal agreement for Newry residents to vote on, without success.

In November they attempted mediation, which was also unsuccessful. At those two meetings the four-member NWC was represented by only two of them, plus two consultants. The SAD 44 negotia-

tors had a full contingent and made a general proposal to look into changing the School Board representation in order to add an "at large" member from Newry, thus effectively increasing the town's representation. The move would be an alternative to withdrawal,

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## Locals charged in heroin distribution network

A nearly two-year investigation culminated Tuesday with grand jury indictment/arrest warrants on 15 individuals in connection with the "Hathaway Heroin Distribution Network," according to Oxford County Sheriff Wayne Gallant.

Several Bethel area residents are among those charged with conspiracy to commit aggravated trafficking in heroin for col-

lectively importing and distributing 80,000 dosage units of heroin (street value of approximately \$3.2 million) in Oxford and Cumberland counties between Jan. 2013 and April 2015, according to information provided by Gallant.

They include Brandon Blood, 23, of Bethel, Morgan McKinney, 20, of Bethel, Michael Farnum, 24, of Bethel, Scott Billings, 24,

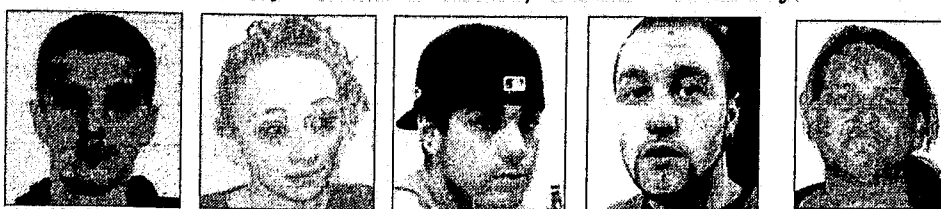
of Milton and Richard Labay, 38, of West Paris.

Agencies involved in the arrests were Oxford County Sheriff's Office, MDEA, Maine State Police, Maine Attorney

General's Office, Rumford Police, Massachusetts State Police, Bean Station Tennessee Police Department and the Oxford County Regional Communication Center, accord-

ing to Gallant.

As of noon Tuesday only two of the 15 individuals had not been taken into custody, he said, but were expected to be by the end of the day.



Brandon Blood

Morgan McKinney

Michael Farnum

Scott Billings

Richard Labay

OCSO

## Plan

Continued from page 1

tended one meeting. He described the committee as "dysfunctional." He said the group needs an outside facilitator, and suggested AVCOG, which advised the 1998 committee.

"I disagree with Fran and her approach," Cressy said. "We have splinter groups doing their own thing in terms of planning and we need to pull those things together. We can pluck meaningful items from the existing plan, but we should not be tied to the existing plan. A lot has changed in 17 years."

Head agreed that some guidance is needed. "When it was presented to us we were told we needed to start a whole new one. I think that was absolutely absurd."

Other committee members are Selectman Pat Carter, Rebecca Record and David Degruittola.

Resident Rick Whitney questioned the need for a Comprehensive Plan at all.

Noting that the reason a plan is needed is because of the sewer ordinance, he said, "An awful lot of people get very nervous about having a Comprehensive Plan because quite often there are personal agendas of individuals and groups who want to push certain ideas, and it's not a reflection of what townspeople think. Perhaps we could consider not having that Comprehensive Plan, and eliminating that from the sewer ordinance."

Town Manager Christine Landes said that would be an option. But if the town doesn't move forward with something, she said, the committee will likely dissolve. "We will have resignations," she said.

Selectman Don Bennett said he was "with Rick on this one. I'd very much like to look into the idea of being able to see if an SSDC fee and ordinance simply can't somehow translate into a fee schedule that is not an ordinance."

Charron re-iterated the Planning Board needs

guidance. Without a plan, he said, "there should also be subsequent review, contacts and road forward for things like resource protection and land use, so we have the muscle we need on the planning side if the Comprehensive Plan is no longer available."

Landes said that was an option, and there was also a possibility of moving to a strategic plan instead.

Maloney said a strategic plan typically focuses on infrastructure, such as roads, sewer and water, and spells out an improvement plan with capital investments over future years. He said it was possible to incorporate some Comprehensive Plan components into a strategic plan.

Utilizing AVCOG in crafting a Comprehensive Plan can range from advice on specific issues for a fee, Maloney said, to a full "Cadillac" service that handles much of the process and can range from \$25,000 to \$35,000 in cost.

He said the Bethel committee would not need to "start from scratch" on a plan.

The selectmen eventually agreed for Maloney to have a preliminary meeting with the committee to discuss their needs, and then report back to selectmen.

In other business at last week's meeting, the board decided to wait until next year to consider planning a skating rink on the Bethel Common. Liability insurance for volunteers working on the rink has been a concern, and they would need to be appointed to a town committee in order to be covered.

Robin Zinchuk, executive director of the Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce, attended the meeting and said private donations were available to support the project. A provision for the town to accept them would have to be worked into the town budget/meeting.

## Task Force

Continued from page 1

On the task force are representatives from law enforcement, schools, municipalities, mental health, churches and non-profits, whose meetings are open to the public.

They are using as reference the 2013 and 2015 Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey for Oxford County, from the Maine Departments of Education and Health and Human Services. Middle and high schoolers were questioned about drug and alcohol use and availability.

Duguay said that based on those results, trends at the high school level "are heading in the right direction." She said the age of onset for use of alcohol is down, use over a past-30 day period is down, access is down, risk is down, and binge drinking is down.

Marijuana use in the past 30 days was also down, she said. However, said Duguay, "risk of marijuana use is in the wrong direction. We attribute that to the legalization of medical marijuana."

While the high school results are mixed, she said,

middle school "is another story. Trying alcohol is way up over the state, and marijuana use is up."

The task force is currently planning a 13-question survey to distribute throughout the community next month. Among the multiple choice questions: In your opinion, how easy is it to access the following substances (alcohol, marijuana, heroin, prescription drugs, inhalants, etc.)? Where do you think youth are getting alcohol and other drugs? What best describes your attitude toward youth marijuana use? Toward underage drinking? What are the top three reasons youth use?

Duguay said her panel is looking for opportunities to have an information table at local events.

"Our first priority will be getting the survey out and other assessment issues," she said. I'd like to get at least 150 surveys. We would distribute them electronically through Facebook pages, electronic newsletters, etc. We would have hard copies

at events like basketball games, movie theaters, presentations, etc. This would happen throughout the month of January."

The group also plans to hire a coordinator.

Duguay said strategies to address the problems include education and information dissemination, training for stores that sell alcohol as well as bars and restaurants, working closely with law enforcement to address business compliance, availability of alcohol or drugs through purchasing, stealing, getting from friends and relatives, etc., and presentations to students, parents and community members.

The task force meetings are open to the public. The next one is Jan. 14 at 3 p.m. at the SAD 44 main office in the Norway Savings Bank building. Anyone wishing to attend or get more information is asked to contact Duguay at 364-7408 or rvhcduguay@gwi.net to plan for space.

"I'm very excited about the commitment of the Bethel community toward this project," Duguay said.

## Noyes

Continued from page 1

age the natural resources conscientiously, the release said.

The trust will keep the land in current use tree-growth tax-basis.

This is the first crowd-funding campaign the Land Trust has launched. The campaign will be located at [www.indiegogo.com/campaigns/noyes-mountain-preserve](http://www.indiegogo.com/campaigns/noyes-mountain-preserve).

Executive Director Lee Dasserler worked with Zizi Vlaun of the Center for an Ecology Based Economy (CEBE) to build an Indiegogo campaign for WFLT, the release said.

Norway videographer Jack Gentempo has filmed and edited a 4-minute video for the campaign. The video includes footage from hikes up the moun-

tain, from Route 117, from Main Street in Norway, and from the viewpoint at Roberts Farm Preserve. It also features people from the community.

In the video Andrea Burns from Norway Downtown speaks about the importance of protecting the built and natural environment and the link between conservation and economic revitalization. WFLT Director Lee Dasserler talks about the Land Trust and the parcel's conservation and recreation significance.

Dyk Eusden, Bates Geology Dept., speaks about the geological origins of the mountain and resultant gems and minerals found on site.

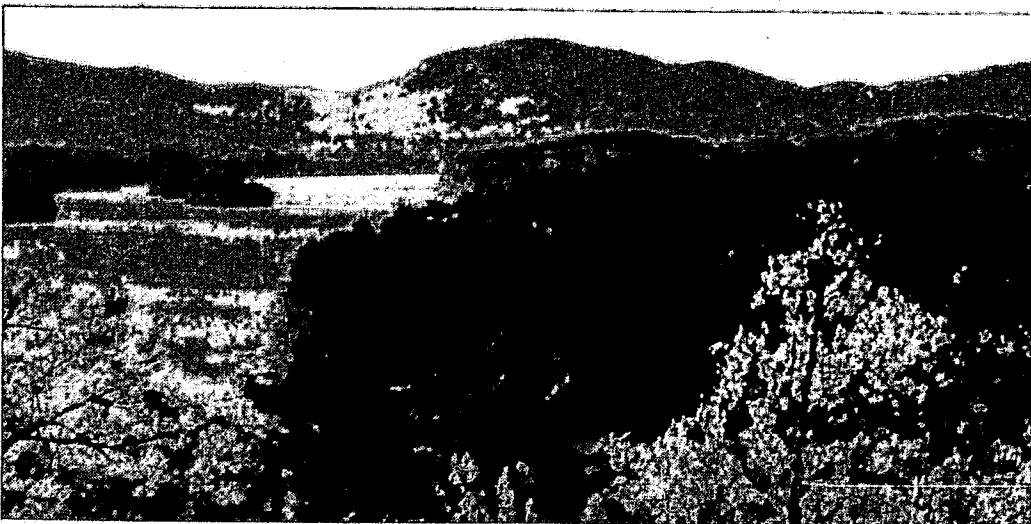
Norway Lakes Associa-

tion volunteer and summer resident Susan Jacoby spoke about the Lake Pennesseewassee watershed and the relationship between Noyes Mountain and the lake.

The Hodgkin children, who live at the base of the mountain on Richardson Hollow Road chime in about the recreational benefits of protecting the mountain: running up, running down, sliding, skiing, and snow shoeing.

The campaign runs for 60 days and will culminate after this year's Mellie Dunham Snowshoe Festival which will be held during the Great Maine Outdoor Weekend Feb. 12-14.

For more information about the campaign, visit [wflmaine.org](http://wflmaine.org).



Noyes Mountain in Greenwood, as seen from the Roberts Farm Preserve in Norway.

Submitted photo

## From the Bethel Town Manager's office

By Christine M. Landes

As always, it is my pleasure to provide this bi-weekly column for the citizens of Bethel.

Wow! What weather we are having in this region. Although the budget for snow removal is barely touched, the area's economy could use a good snow fall. The long range outlook is not very promising for snow prior to the end of the year, but when it appears we will be ready! The Public Works crew makes sure all the gear is ready every evening just in case.

The public hearing on the proposed fee structure for wastewater treatment billing is scheduled for Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. This meeting will be held at the Town Office. All users will be receiving a notice the first of January that will outline the proposal. If users have any questions, or need clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out to the town office.

As a reminder dog licenses are due. The fee is \$6 for a spayed/neutered dog and \$11 for others. Please remember to bring the rabies certificate.

Discounted ski tickets for Mt. Abram, Sugarloaf and Sunday River are also available at the office. Mt. Abram tickets are \$35 and Sunday River/Sugarloaf tickets vary from \$48-\$69 depending on age. We also have tickets for the March 5 Portland Pirates game at a cost of \$14.00. We only accept cash or card for these tickets.

Holiday hours for the Town Office are: closing at noon on Dec. 24 and closed Christmas Day; regular hours New Year's Eve and closed New Year's Day.

I want to wish everyone a very joyous holiday season. May your blessings be abundant and friendships be numerous as you enter the New Year. Please remember if there is anything I, or the employees of the town, can do for you please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here for you.

## Our Back Pages

Danna Brown Nickerson

**10 years ago:** Two dogs owned by Frank Gibson, were rescued by members of the fire department from the icy waters of the Androscoggin.

The Telstar boys' basketball team defeated Wiscasset 88-83, in double overtime. Senior Sean Caddigan scored his 1,000th career point.

Deaths: Judith E. Haskell, Nancy D. Redstone, Patricia M. Blaquiere.

**20 years ago:** The Telstar High School girls' basketball team recorded their first victory of the season defeating Lisbon 63-33.

Snow fell on the area for three days straight with more predicted blanketing the area with more than twice the normal amount.

Birth: Zachary Todd Mills.

Death: Arlene I. Reynolds.

**30 years ago:** Bethel attorney Michael J. O'Donnell was elected president of the Oxford County Trial Lawyers Association for 1986.

A Christmas party sponsored by the Pleasant Valley Grange, West Bethel, was attended by over 100 children and parents.

Birth: Elliot Brackett Lyons.

Death: Mrs. Emily A. Lane.

**40 years ago:** Mt. Abram Ski Slopes opened for the season on Sunday, December 21, thanks to storm which provided four inches of new natural snow making an excellent packed powder surface.

Shirley Merrill's third grade class at Crescent Park sang Christmas songs on WNWY-FM 93 radio in Norway on Christmas day.

Deaths: Jeffrey P. Chaplin, George Bernard Cushman, Mrs. Mary B. Stalmuke, Charles F. Keenan.

**50 years ago:** Neither Geraldine Shimamura nor Edda Carver was injured when their cars collided at the junction of Routes 2 and 26 approaching the overpass.

P.H. Chadbourne & Co. was awarded a contract by the State Highway Commission to construct 1.823 miles of road in Lovell at a cost of \$174,750.25.

Deaths: F. Emma Robertson, Harry F. Hart, Mrs. Leona A. Bishop.

**60 years ago:** David Boynton, 13, of Bethel was honored at a reception at the Museum of Natural History in New York City for his participation as a central character in the children's book "David and the Sea Gulls."

Arthur Cummings severely injured his right thumb at Chadbourne's mill when it became entangled in a conveyor chain.

Birth: Roscoe Edward Perham, Jr.

Deaths: Wanda Lee Waterhouse, Mrs. Nellie A. Billings.

**70 years ago:** Maurice Brooks' home on the Middle Intervale Road was nearly completed.

**80 years ago:** A horse and carriage and a Chevrolet coupe were in a collision at the foot of Church Street. The horse was badly injured and had to be shot. Neither the driver of the horse or the operator of the car were hurt.

Deaths: Donald E. Hamlin.

**90 years ago:** Mellie Dunham, Maine's champion fiddler, was signed up for the Keith circuit. He opened his engagement in Boston.

Herrick Bros. Co. had built six snowboats. These were all made up from Fords.

The first snow of the season arrived Dec. 20, leaving about nice inches on the ground.

**110 years ago:** The Bethel Chair Factory was shut down for a week waiting for logs to be hauled to the yard.

## The Bethel Citizen

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# Greenwood director questions superintendent evaluation process

By AMY WIGHT CHAPMAN

During the board member comment portion of last week's SAD 44 School Board meeting, Greenwood director Larry Merlino read an article by Kathy Hayes, former executive director of the Michigan Association of School Boards, about the importance of school boards that are "fully engaged and knowledgeable about learning methods and curriculum."

The article stated that "successful boards that influence achievement results in their districts spend quality time discussing research data, district goals, measurements of progress, technology and other instructional practices that relate to the ability of schools to successfully educate students."

Board members, according to Hayes, "must see themselves as change agents and reform leaders...No center of power is better positioned than school boards to provide the leadership that is necessary to serve as guardians of our children's education."

Merlino went on to state that the School Board had not fulfilled its duties because it had not conducted an annual evaluation of the district superintendent.

"The School Board does not work for the superintendent. The superintendent is hired by the School Board," he said.

"The School Board is required by policy to evaluate the superintendent annually. The board chair and the superintendent have decided to ignore this policy."

"My meaning is very clear, and in no way is denying support for the superintendent," Merlino

continued. "We need to regain control of this board, and a good start would be to strongly recommend to the chair that meeting with the Executive Committee might produce better decisions."

Merlino said there should be "a schedule of educational sessions at the meetings to improve the knowledge of all directors. The first session should be the evaluation policy."

Board Chair Lainey Cross of Bethel reminded Merlino that the board had previously discussed the superintendent's evaluation.

"We all sat around this table a year ago and decided that the evaluation of the superintendent would be in June," she said.

**Presentations**  
The principals of Crescent Park School, Woodstock Elementary School, and Telstar Middle School gave a presentation on how standardized test data from the Northwest Educational Assessment is used to develop individualized curriculum and promote student growth.

WES Principal Jolene Littlehale said teachers are able to look at detailed test data for their class or for individual students, and use it to customize lessons based on areas in which students are proficient, or need additional work.

"This is a huge tool for us," she said.

CPS Principal Levi Brown said that teachers use data from the NWEA to write student learning objectives, which assess targeted growth for each student. Testing is done in the fall, then repeated later in the school year, allowing teachers to measure students' progress toward their objectives.

TMS Principal Mark Kenney explained the score reports that are sent home to parents following testing, which show their child's projected and actual growth and how he or she compares to national norms and district scores.

Kenney said a detailed explanation of how to interpret the data accompanies the report, which is also discussed with parents at the fall parent-teacher conference.

The School Board also heard a presentation from staff of the Telstar Freshman Academy about their planned trip to Washington, D.C., and from three students of TFA, who discussed some of the unique benefits of the program. (Bethel Citizen, 12/17/15)

**Murphy responds**

During his report, Superintendent David Murphy responded to Merlino's comments, noting, "Tonight you had an opportunity to hear that some of the things that Mr. Merlino talked about in the article he read are alive and well and happening in SAD 44."

"I think it's more than critical that we focus on the positive things," Murphy said. "You heard tonight that we're examining data, and we're using the data to improve student performance. We're looking at college and career readiness through innovative programs that this board has supported—not just the Telstar Freshman Academy, but the Central Maine Community College option, and the many opportunities to address different styles of learning of our

kids."

While he added that he welcomes constructive criticism, "There is a time and a place to discuss goals, and we've done that. Personally, I can't let it pass without saying that we talked last year, and this board said it would be better to look at evaluating the superintendent based on a year's worth of goals...That's why we're doing it in June."

Murphy said he is proud of the students and staff of the district and added, "I know most of you feel the same way."

"We need to acknowledge that we are in a wonderful position as a small school system to do great things. Let's not get tangled up in the weeds," he said.

Murphy said that when board members wish to provide direction or offer suggestions, "doing that in our subcommittees, doing that with a phone call, suggesting ways that we can improve moving forward, is much better than waiting for the board meeting and launching something out of left field."

Later in the meeting, under discussion of new business, Merlino requested an adjustment to the agenda. Board Chair Lainey Cross said that adjustments to the agenda are customarily given to her prior to the meeting, adding, "It's not something that should be a surprise."

Policy does, however, allow adjustments to the agenda to be made during the meeting with a two-thirds vote of the board.

Merlino motioned for the board to enter executive session at the conclusion of the meeting "to discuss my comments and the comments from the director of the Michigan Association of School Boards."

His motion did not receive enough votes to be added to the agenda.

**Personnel changes**

In other business, Murphy told the board he had accepted the resignation of elementary art teacher Jen Boles for personal reasons. The position has been advertised, with several applications received, and Murphy said he hoped to have an appointment before the January meeting of the School Board.

Murphy also said that longtime district accountant Cindy Moxcey had recently announced her

retirement. He praised Moxcey's 33 years of service and her willingness to remain in the job to assist with the transition to a new accountant.

The board approved the appointment of Debra Martin as the new SAD 44 central office accountant. Martin has served as the Deputy Treasurer for Oxford County for the past five years and has over 25 years' experience in accounting and finance.

Murphy said the district was fortunate to receive applications from seven candidates, four of whom were interviewed, and to be able to hire a well-qualified replacement.

(Note: The writer is a substitute teacher in the SAD 44 Adult Education Department.)

...for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. Matthew 2:2

## CHRISTMAS services

Nurture your spirit with a joyous celebration of the holidays at these local houses of worship.

<b>Bethel Alliance Church</b> 251 Walkers Mills Road, Bethel 207-824-2289 Candlelight Christmas Eve Service: December 24 • 7 p.m.	<b>Christmas Eve Services</b> DECEMBER 24 4 & 9 p.m. Christ Episcopal Church 35 Paris Street, Bethel 207-743-6782 7 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church 34 Buckfield Rd., So. Paris 743-6906
<b>Our Lady of Snows</b> Walkers Mills Road, Bethel Christmas Eve (Bethel) 6:30 p.m.	<b>West Parish Congregational Church UCC</b> 32 Church Street, Bethel 207-824-2689 Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m. with Bell Choir 7:00 p.m. Candlelight
<b>St. Barnabas Episcopal Church</b> The stone church at the rotary in Rumford Christmas Eve Service: with Holy Communion 5:30 p.m. The Reverend Edward Greene officiating	<b>Parish of the Holy Savior</b> St. Athanasius & St. John Church 126 Maine Avenue, Rumford Christmas Eve (Rumford) 4 p.m. Christmas Day (Rumford) 9:30 a.m.

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Mediterranean Artichokes \$7  
Stuffed Mushroom Caps \$7

**ENTREES**  
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Filet Mignon Trio \$26 • Baked Stuffed Shrimp \$22  
Boothbay Fettuccini \$26 • Lobster Casserole \$24  
Raspberry Walnut Chicken \$20  
Grilled Sicilian Eggplant \$16

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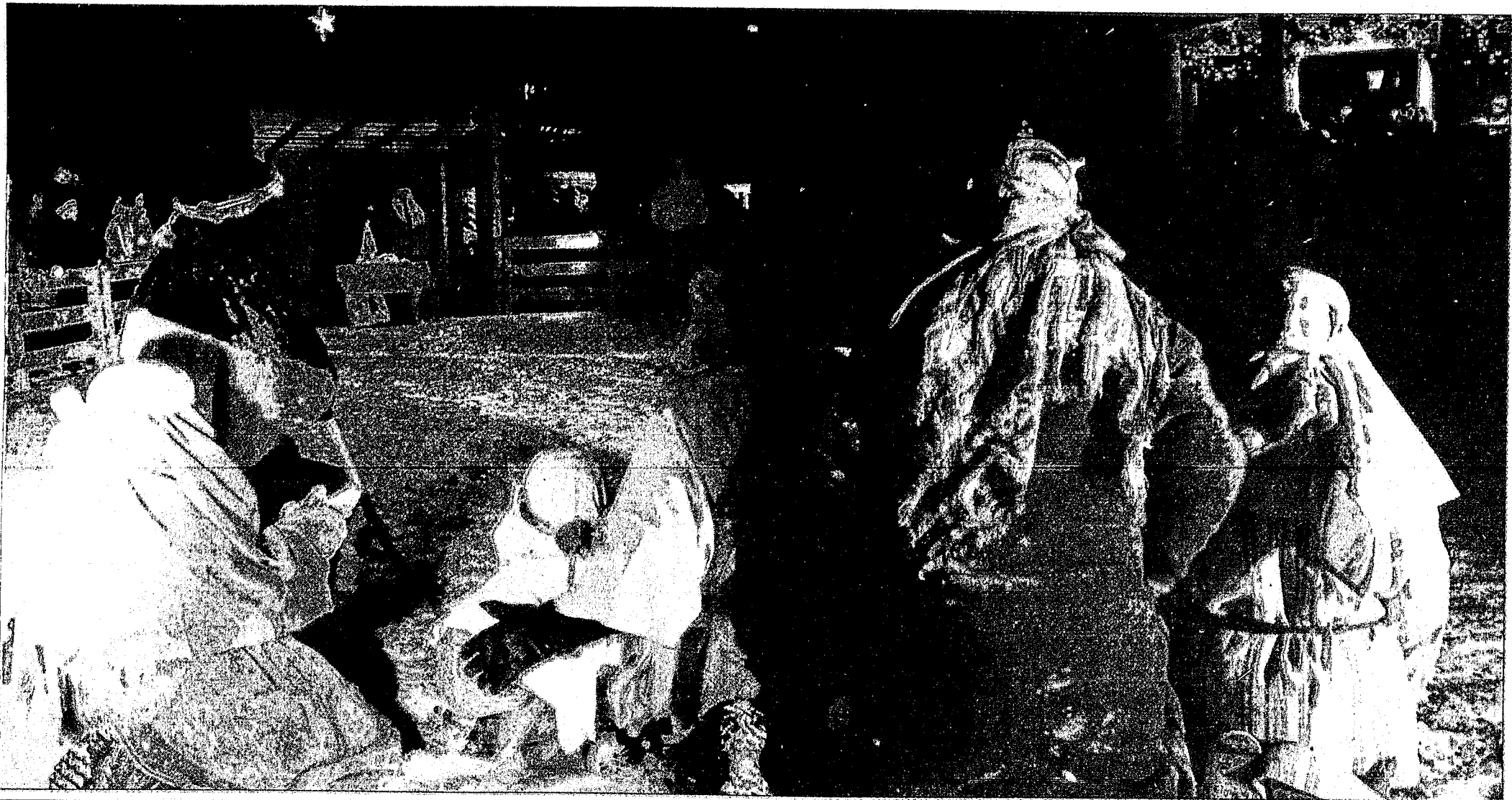
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A. Aloisio

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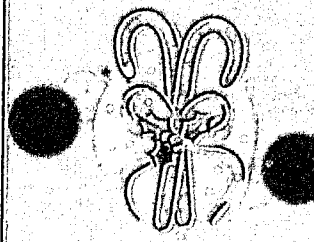
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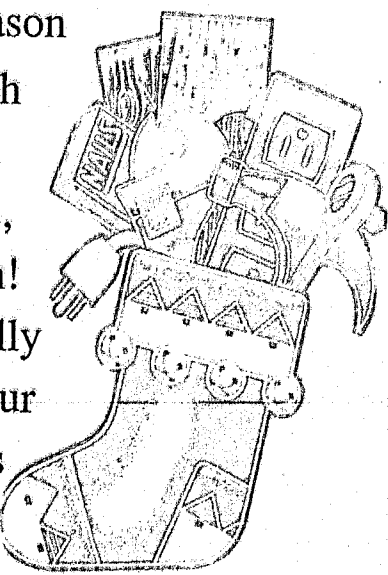
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# Bethel, Newry, and Greenwood officials hear "Heart and Soul"

By Matthew Daigle  
Sun Media

Town officials from Bethel, Newry and Greenwood attended a presentation by a "Community Heart and Soul" representative last week at the Bethel selectmen's meeting.

Jane Lafleur, executive director of Friends of Mid-coast Maine and a coach with the Community Heart and Soul program, explained that the program was part of the Orton Family Foundation, a Vermont-based organization that helps small communities find ways to deal with change and develop plans for their futures. The Orton family owns the Vermont Country Store.

According to the Foundation website, the Community Heart and Soul program takes what residents "love most about their town and translates those personal and emotional connections into a blueprint that serves as the foundation for future community decisions."

Lafleur said that several Maine towns had participated in the program, including Damariscotta, Gardiner and Biddeford.

"The town of Bucksport decided that they wanted to start the process after what happened to their mill," Lafleur added.

She said that the Community Heart and Soul program relies on four steps: laying the groundwork, exploring the community, making decisions and developing an action plan.

"The first thing a community has to do is lay the groundwork for the rest of the process," Lafleur said. "The community needs to organize a team with broad representation of the different types of people in the town."

"The idea is to figure out the different types of groups in the town, and how to get them involved," she continued. "It's especially important to reach out to the groups that may be difficult to reach, such as single mothers or students."

Lafleur said that the second phase — exploring the community — involved residents gathering stories from residents and determining common themes.

"The idea in listening to people's stories is to see what the community means to them," Lafleur said. "The stories could be about anything. The idea is to figure out what brought people to this area, what keeps them here and what they love about it. What makes the community special or unique?"

Newry resident Steve

Wight asked Lafleur how the community could reach out to groups that may be more difficult to communicate with.

As an example, Lafleur pointed to when the town of Damariscotta was participating in the Heart and Soul program.

"The team developed a survey that asked students different questions about their community, and what they like about it," she said. "They ended up distributing the survey to the students at the school. Usually, the hardest age group to reach in a community is ages 13 to 17, and ages 18 to 25."

Lafleur said that the third and fourth steps — making decisions and developing an action plan — involved whittling down the common themes extrapolated from the stories and figuring out which projects would be feasible for the community.

"The idea is to look at the ideas you get from the stories and ask, 'Does this sound like Bethel?'" Lafleur said. "You figure out the values that you want to showcase in your action plan and narrow them down. After that, you make an action plan to accomplish those goals."

She said some projects may be small scale, such as planting flowers on a

Main Street to make it more appealing. But such steps show action has taken place.

Lafleur also described one town effort that sought input from high school students. It revealed they wanted a place to gather socially, where they could buy inexpensive food. A restaurant owner offered a spare room in the business for that purpose and provided a simple, inexpensive menu.

When one resident asked about the cost of the Heart & Soul project, Lafleur said that it would be up to the town to raise the money, whether through the general fund, or through grant money and volunteers.

"Every town involved needs to hire a Heart and Soul coordinator," Lafleur said. "It's a 40-hour-a-week job. Generally, towns should budget \$100,000 over two years."

She added that there were other expenses, including paying to rent out venues for meetings and providing food for the meetings.

"It's a lot of work," Lafleur said near the end of the meeting. "It's not for every town. However, I've seen firsthand how the program can help a community develop a plan for their future."

## Bond release effect on MLT uncertain

BETHEL-Jim Mitchell, the executive director of the Mahoosuc Land Trust, said last week he is not yet sure if a 227-acre land parcel in Rumford that MLT has been seeking to buy will be designated in the bond money that Gov. Paul LePage said he will issue. The land is near the Ellis River, Mitchell said. LePage said he's going to issue \$5 million in bonds for the Land for Maine's Future program. But he said it's too late for another nearly \$6.5 million in bonds that expired last month. The Legislature may consider reauthorizing the expired bonds when it meets next month, according to reports. "This is the best news that we could have hoped for," said State Rep. Fran Head (R-Bethel). "I'm looking forward to casting my vote in support of reauthorizing the remaining bonds...and the sooner the better."

## Fashion show benefits Ski Museum

Fuscia is back in fashion and neon is way cool—at least for one evening.

The retro look will be seen in full force on Jan. 9, when the Ski Museum of Maine stages its second annual Vintage Ski Fashion Show, featuring dozens of decades-old outfits for men and women in styles and colors that haven't been spotted on the slopes in many years.

The show will be hosted by the Bethel Inn as a fundraiser for the Ski Museum of Maine, and proceeds will go toward establishing a Bethel satellite exhibit. The future Bethel location, at a site to be determined, will showcase the rich history of alpine and Nordic skiing in Oxford County.

The fashion show will run from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the main dining room of the 1913 inn. The \$25 admission fee includes a selection of hors d'oeuvres; there will be a full cash bar. Many valuable door prizes will be awarded.

What's in your attic? Community members who would like to have their retro ski outfits featured in the show are encouraged to call Cindy Hiebert at 446-3771 or Cheri Thurston at 344-7758.

"We're always on the lookout for classic ski fashions — especially styles from the 1940s into the 1970s," says Leigh Breidenbach, show organizer. "We'd love to see some snowflake sweaters, melton wool jackets, gentsy trousers and waffle stompers on our runway this year."

Founded in 1995, the Ski Museum of Maine is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization established with a mission to celebrate and preserve the history and heritage of Maine skiing.

The Ski Museum exhibits artifacts, photographs, artworks, and documents at its location in Kingfield, conducts educational programs to ski clubs, schools, libraries, historical and civic organizations, and hosts social events and activities throughout the year.

Tickets for the fashion show and information on the Ski Museum of Maine is available online at [www.ski-museumofmaine.org](http://www.ski-museumofmaine.org).

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## Newry

Continued from page 1

if Newry would stop the withdrawal process.

That idea was rejected by Gary Wight and Jim Sysko, the two NWC members present at mediation. Sysko said later his committee does not have the authority to accept that offer, and could only negotiate an agreement.

On Dec. 9 a letter was sent to Acting DOE Commissioner William Beardsley from SAD 44 Withdrawal Subcommittee Chairman Marcel Polak and Board Chair Lainey Cross, reporting on "the status of negotiations and formal mediation sessions."

"Little substantive progress was made at either session. Discussion was hampered by the fact that a quorum of the NWC did not attend either session. As you know, the town's four withdrawal committee members are established by a statutory process that results in different perspectives on that committee. This makes it all the more important that at least a majority of the NWC attend negotiations, and certainly, formal mediation sessions."

"The NWC gave no prior notice to MSAD 44 that the NWC would not have a quorum in attendance for the mediation sessions, nor did it request rescheduling. All of the MSAD 44 committee members took a good part of each day to travel to Portland to attend both scheduled mediation sessions."

"We will continue to provide you with updates as the situation warrants."

The NWC met last Thursday.

"The parties each can designate their own representatives to negotiate on their behalf," said Dan Stockford, the committee's lawyer. "This committee designated Gary and Jim to be there to negotiate. There were no ground rules agreed to between the parties, between the board and the committee, that there needed to be a quorum present. I didn't antici-

pate they would have a quorum. The issue was not raised during the first mediation session by the board, nor was it raised between the two sessions, nor was it raised at the outset of the second mediation session. It wasn't until the end of the second mediation session that a concern was raised.

"The statement in the letter that they sent to the commissioner that discussion was hampered by the fact that a quorum of the withdrawal committee did not attend either session, I think, is very disingenuous. The fact is we have made multiple proposals that were rejected [over past months]."

"It's outrageous for a variety of reasons," said Dr. Mark Eastman, the panel's educational consultant.

Andrews said he didn't believe there is anything the commissioner could do about the situation, and SAD 44 was simply calling attention to it.

Bonnie Largess, who is the SAD 44 School Board member on the NWC, said Polak circulated the letter at last week's School Board meeting. She said she told directors that the NWC had never decided all members needed to be present at mediation.

"I gave our point of view," she said, but there was no response from the board.

At NWC meetings over the past year, Largess has often defended SAD 44 against criticism on the quality of education in the district.

Wondered Eastman, "If we had had all four committee members, would that have somehow resulted in an alternate proposal more appealing to them?"

Stockford said that even if all had been present and wanted to pursue the proposal to change the representation on the School Board, "they don't have the statutory authority to offer it."

## SAD 44 RESPONDS

On Monday Polak was

asked why the board sent the letter to the DOE commissioner.

"The previous commissioner recommended we enter into mediation and this letter was sent to the new acting commissioner to report back on the outcomes," he said.

Polak was also asked about the attendance by the NWC at the mediation sessions. He provided a sequence from the viewpoint of his committee:

"There is no reason to argue about a mere technicality. The real issue is whether the NWC is listening to and taking into account the other side's proposals and reasons."

"We came to believe that the two attending members of the NWC were not seriously looking at our proposal and were not seriously listening to our reasons. We raised this issue for that reason."

"That being said, it is false that we did not raise the issue in mediation #1, and it is false that we raised the issue at the end of mediation #2."

"In mediation #1, the parties met at the beginning with the mediator, and each explained its position. The mediator then placed the parties in different rooms to meet with them separately. It became apparent that the two members were not evaluating seriously what we had said, and we raised with the mediator the fact that the NWC had only two members present. We do not know if the mediator said anything when he met with the other party."

"In mediation #2, the mediator placed the parties in separate rooms at the outset. The mediator met with the NWC first. As soon as the mediator came into our room to meet, we asked if NWC had a quorum and we immediately raised an objection when told it did not. We told the mediator we did not believe the two members of the NWC were representative. The law assigns particular persons to the membership of a town's

withdrawal committee, for their diverse backgrounds and perspectives, so it is particularly important that all the viewpoints be represented on that committee. That being said, we only raised the issue because we came to believe the two members present were not taking us seriously."

As for SAD 44 only having two representatives in earlier negotiations, Polak said, "Before mediation, negotiation was conducted via formal written draft offers and counteroffers. These offers and counteroffers were fully authorized and submitted without meeting of the two parties. The parties met on March 4 and on July 13. Both sides understood that active negotiations would not occur at these meetings. These meetings had a different purpose. These meetings were held to allow the parties to explain their proposals, which had been submitted."

"In contrast, the purpose of mediation is to reach agreement in live session, and so active negotiation must be conducted at those meetings. In that setting, the issue is whether the NWC needs its full makeup to fully listen to and evaluate our proposal, and whether its own proposal is taking our positions into consideration."

## GO BACK TO THE TOWN

Polak was also asked what the SAD 44 panel might have expected had their Newry counterparts all attended, if the NWC had no authority to entertain the proposal on changing board representation anyway.

"The basis for our proposal has a fairness piece and a legal piece," he said.

"The fairness piece is that Newry currently has the lowest overall tax rate, and it has exactly the same school tax rate, as all other towns in MSAD 44. The other towns cannot and will not support education by having Newry

shrug off on them an additional \$2,500,000 tax burden per year. The result of that would drastically impact student education. That is the fairness piece."

"The legal piece is that the Department of Education has been crystal clear that an 'agreement' means both parties agree on something. If they cannot agree despite their efforts, it is unlawful for DOE to impose withdrawal terms on either side. The courts have been crystal clear that the commissioner is correct in his analysis. The legislature has been crystal clear many times in the past that the situation in MSAD 44 is unique, and that general laws should not be allowed to work unfairly in our special situation."

"Taking the fairness piece and the legal piece into consideration, MSAD's position is that the NWC should go back to the town and explain, first, that the current local school funding is fair, equitable, and reasonable for Newry; second, that Newry's withdrawal would impose an unreasonable tax shift to the other towns and harm students; third, that further negotiations are not likely to lead to a withdrawal agreement; and fourth, withdrawal will not be imposed by the commissioner or the courts or the legislature. For these reasons, it is obvious that further prolonged negotiations will waste taxpayer dollars."

"The NWC's lack of authority to negotiate the town's school board representation is a red herring. Our proposal is that if Newry rescinds the withdrawal, the MSAD committee will recommend to the MSAD board that MSAD 44 explore a different avenue, namely, a board reapportionment. This would effectively give Newry a greater voice on the school board, consistent with the 'one person one vote' requirement of the law."

## Maine coast comes to Barking Dawg

By ALISON ALOISIO

The new owner of the Barking Dawg Market on the Sunday River Access Road in Newry is keeping many of the market's food offerings the same. But there's a significant new addition - a variety of seafood.

The market will serve as something of a winter version of a family business on the coast - a seafood restaurant and lobster shack, known as the Lobster Pound Restaurant and McLaughlin's Lobster Shack in Lincolnville Beach.

The restaurant started in 1956, and Rick McLaughlin has been a part of it since he was a teenager.

The lobster shack, which McLaughlin now owns, is seasonal. For many years he has had an eye out for a winter business to complement his summer one, he said. He looked for something either in Florida or at a ski resort.

This year he found the Barking Dawg.

"This happened at just the right time," McLaughlin said. "We're trying to continue with the good things that John did, and add what we do in seafood."

That includes live lobsters delivered from Portland three times a week, and crabmeat from Belfast. There are also clams, haddock and scallops.

McLaughlin also regularly brings seafood up himself.

For alternatives to seafood, there are burgers, pizza and sandwiches. In the morning the market offers breakfast sandwiches, muffins and pastries.

Inside the Barking Dawg, McLaughlin has added more tables for seating. Customers can also now drink beer and wine sold in the store in the cafe area.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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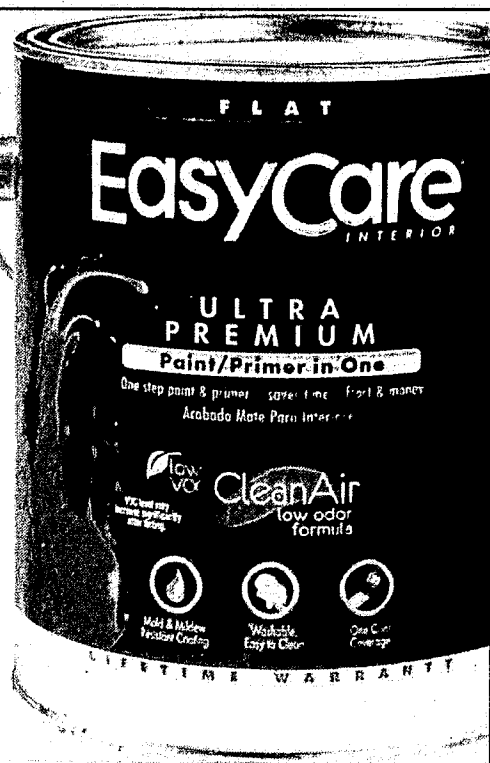
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## The Way I See It

by Sharon Bouchard

From the TWISI archives: My absolute most favorite day of the year is Christmas Eve. All the shipping stress, the indecision of what to get for whom, the hurry and scurry to get it all done is over. It is too late to do anything more.

There is no point in second-guessing if you got the right gift or if you should get more. There is no point in worrying about the bills that you didn't pay because you spent the money on Christmas. You'll have plenty of time to worry about that in the weeks ahead.

There is no point in feeling badly that you and Santa couldn't fill everything on little Jimmy's wish list; you did the very best that you could. Little Jimmy is still going to be very excited and happy on Christmas morning.

On Christmas Eve it is time to relax and let go of all your anxieties. Enjoy the sights and the sounds of the festive season. Join the children in their giddy anticipation of what the morning will bring. It's Christmas Eve, all is calm, all is bright.

Even as a child I preferred Christmas Eve over Christmas Day, as strange as that may sound. Sure, I loved getting up Christmas morning and running to the living room to see what Santa had left. I loved taking down my Christmas stocking to find the surprises within along with the fruit; always had a lot of fruit.

But, Christmas Eve was one powerful day and night of magic. The whole family was in a good mood and even my brothers and I got along. There seemed to be an unspoken truce on all name-calling, hair pulling, pushing and teasing. A truce that I'm sure my parents appreciated.

During the day it was cookie baking time so we could leave some out for Santa and eat a whole bunch ourselves. It was the one day of the year we were not cautioned about spoiling our appetite for supper.

My brothers and I,

**On Christmas Eve it is time to relax and let go of all your anxieties.**

through mouthfuls of cookies would discuss such profound things as how Santa could get in since we didn't have a fireplace and the chimney led directly to the furnace in the cellar. My oldest brother, being a little more knowledgeable about such things having celebrated a few more Christmases than my other brother and myself, said that since Santa is magic enough to fly in a sleigh with flying reindeer and go all around the world with all those toys he was probably mag-

ic enough to just pop in wherever he wanted to.

The big event of Christmas Eve was that we got to open one gift before we hung our stockings and went to bed. Even though my mother always directed us to which gifts to open and they always turned out to be pajamas or slippers, it was still okay. It was the thrill of opening a gift on Christmas Eve that mattered.

This is a tradition that I carried on with my children and now my grandchildren. I think it is just as exciting for them as it was for me. I never advise them on what to open.

Only when I had children of my own did I understand that the promise of opening a present on Christmas Eve took the edge of anticipation off and had a tremendous calming effect on rambunctious children.

As much fun as it was to bake the Christmas cookies and as exciting as it was to hang our stockings and as special as it was to open a present there was something that, at least for me, was so much bigger about Christmas Eve.

It was about Away in a Manger, it was about the enchantment of Christmas magic, it was about peace and love and in my home it is still about all of those things.

I hope that Christmas Eve in your home is as special as it is in mine and the way I see it, I hope all your days are filled with peace and love. Merry Christmas.

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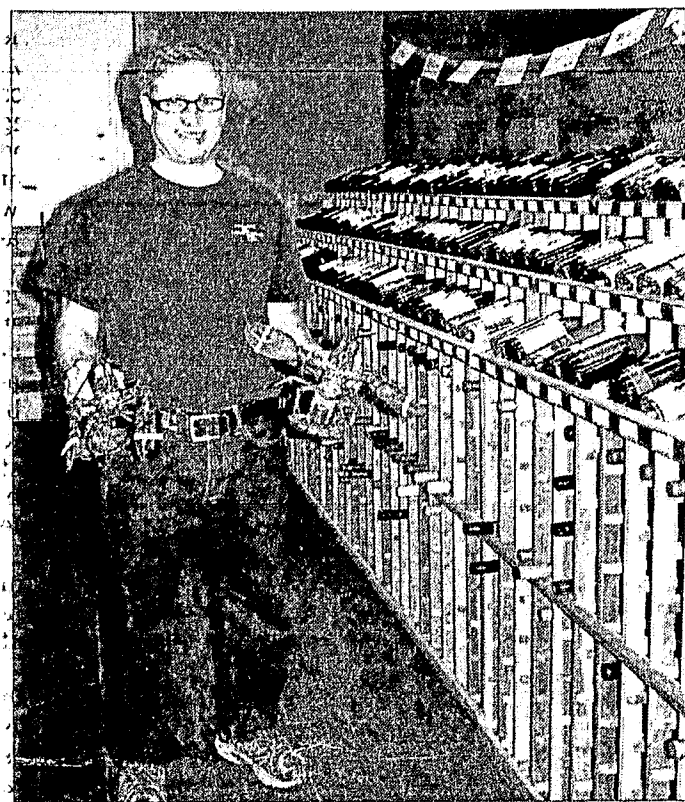
## Barking Dawg

Continued from page 6

McLaughlin hopes to draw both local customers and visitors, particularly those staying in nearby condominiums.

"There's a big potential for takeout, to get food quickly," he said. "We make it easy to come and eat here, or take home."

The market is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week, from November through April (824-6969). A website is in the works, and in the meantime people can visit the lobster shack.com for more on the family business.



Rick McLaughlin holds two lobsters next to the wine rack at the Barking Dawg Market on Skiway Road in Newry. A. Aloisio

From the

## OCSD Patrol Log

Tuesday, Dec. 15

At 10:36 p.m. Cpl. George Cayer responded to a vehicle in the ditch on Skiway Road in Newry. The driver had fallen asleep and gone off the road.

Thursday, Dec. 17

At 10:01 a.m. Deputy Dere MacDonald made a traffic stop on Railroad Street in Bethel that resulted in an operator who was suspended.

At 11:08 a.m. Deputies Matt McDonnell and Dere MacDonald responded to Perkins Valley Road in Woodstock to try to locate a subject who had violated his probation. The subject could not be located.

At 1:28 p.m. Deputy Dere MacDonald responded to Parkway in Bethel for a two-vehicle property damage accident.

At 6:07 p.m. Deputy Steve Witham and Sgt. Matt Baker responded to Mayville Road in Bethel for a complaint of a driver tailgating a tractor trailer. The vehicle was located. The driver was fatigued.

Friday, Dec. 18

At 11:47 p.m. Deputy Dere MacDonald did a traffic stop on Paradise Road in Bethel that resulted in a vehicle search, and drugs were discovered.

Saturday, Dec. 19

At 2:37 a.m. Deputies Andy Whitney and Dere MacDonald responded to a report of an unwanted intoxicated subject in a Church Street residence in Bethel. The subject was arrested and charged with assault and felony criminal trespassing.

At 11:41 a.m. Deputy Andy Whitney and Sgt. Tim Holland responded to a report of several vehicles off the road on the Sunday River Road in Newry due to snow and ice. There was property damage only.

At 12:05 p.m. Sgt. Tim Holland responded to several cars off the road on the Sunday River Road in Bethel, due to extremely icy roads. Welcome to winter.

At 4:35 p.m. Deputy Matt McDonnell responded to the intersection of the West Bethel Road and Lovers Lane in Bethel for a two-vehicle accident with injuries. The driver of one vehicle was taken to Rumford Community Hospital by Bethel Rescue for evaluation. The Bethel Fire Department also assisted at the scene.

At 10:54 p.m. Deputy Dere MacDonald observed a passenger under 21 with alcohol enter a vehicle on Mayville Road. The deputy stopped the vehicle and seized the alcohol from the passenger. After the deputy searched the vehicle and found drug paraphernalia, Taran Vitale was given a summons for illegal transportation of alcohol and drug paraphernalia.

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**TURKEY DINNER**  
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## Bethel

By DON BENNETT



Sunday morning there were well over 150 crows getting a sunflower seed breakfast from left-overs in the harvested Mayville sunflower patch.

### Yule Fest Concert at Gould

Friday afternoon's Yule Fest concert at Gould showed off some really fine string ensemble pieces. I am not usually partial to strings alone music but these pieces were exceptionally well presented. Some of the traditional pieces by soloists, chorus and the band were Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas, Silent Night, by the Chorus, and the final Christmas song of the evening by the band, Jingle Bell Rock. At the opening "Twas the Night Before Christmas was read to an attentive but sometimes a little restless group of children who were rewarded for the being good by each getting a candy cane from Santa. Not to overlook the audience Santa tossed candy canes to it as well some making it almost to the rear of the auditorium.

### Historical Society Barn

Thursday I checked in at the new barn called the Huntoon Barn but part of the Robinson House complex (Big house, little house, back house, barn). There are two very interesting exhibits there already. One is the former Bethel Post Office desk, window, etc. and some of the PO Boxes. The Post Office on Main Street was significantly upgraded during the Bethel Station era while the PO was temporarily at the Casablanca Building. The other hot item is one of the original printing presses used by the Bethel News and then the Citizen donated by George and Danna Nickerson. It still has to be put back together after its recent move.

### Memorial Day observance - back to the monument

In 1909 the year after the Civil War Soldier monument was dedicated, annual Memorial Day ceremonies were held at the Monument at least through 1979. In 1909 Memorial Day was a day long affair ending special programs in Odeon Hall. With a locale for a permanent Bethel Veterans Park pretty well established. And as a veteran I would like to see the annual Memorial Day ceremony returned to the monument area soon to be Veterans Park.

Like the tree that grew in Brooklyn, the outdoor basketball court grows in



Reading "The Night Before Christmas" to children on stage before the Yule Fest concert Friday afternoon at Gould Academy. D. Bennett

Bethel. As an update on progress the loads of fine gravel that were unloaded inside the court site have been leveled - more fill will be needed but the future court is really taking shape.

Spring Street's new house - future home for Sheila and Mike Reardon - is beginning to look very nice, very impressive. I like the siding and shape of the new house. Sue Farrar would be pleased I believe.

### Living Nativity 2015

Over the weekend the stable/manger was in place along with the fencing. Saturday's snow showers gave the scene a nice local touch. Jarrod and Paige Crockett were this year's Mary and Joseph couple. During the actual Sunday evening presentation the temp was only 27 but a good crowd. Someone even had a pet goat wearing a made to fit blanket and the goat joined the performance.

### Addison E. Herrick

Addison Herrick was a major Bethel figure having been a partner in the law office of Enoch Foster and later having a hand in much of Bethel's development particularly the expansion of the Bethel Water Company and guiding Gould Academy as president of the Gould trustees for many years. The Herrick & Park law office was located in the Cole Block next to the Bethel Savings Bank.

Addison E. Herrick (1847-1932) was born in Greenwood, the son of Benjamin and Maria (Garland) Herrick. He attended Gould Academy and Hebron Academy; he graduated from Bowdoin College in 1873. He began a teaching career in Bluehill and became principal of Bluehill Academy then came to Bethel.

His life in Bethel saw him involved in many activities and duties so that whatever he was doing usually appeared in the

town's weekly news - at first in the county weekly newspapers and after 1895 in the Bethel News as well.

He studied law with Enoch Foster (Foster's former office is now part of Bethel Library) from 1875 to 1877 and was admitted to Oxford County bar. Herrick then became a junior law partner with Foster. When Enoch Foster was appointed an Associate Judge of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court in 1884, Herrick took over Foster's responsibilities as treasurer of the Bethel Savings Bank. (In the meantime the Foster-Herrick law office/Bethel Savings Bank building was moved to Broad Street.) The Oxford Democrat weekly newspaper carried Herrick's advertisement as an Attorney-at-Law in Bethel.

While a partner with Foster, Herrick was a parade officer for the 1881 Indian Raid Centennial celebration. In 1882 he married Mary Chase of Bluehill.

During March 1886, builders started work on the Herrick's new house on Broad Street. Herrick received a load of lumber from the Locke and Hastings mill. In June Herrick was one of the signers of a petition to Bethel selectmen which sought a special town meeting to appropriate money for a town sponsored facto-

ry building - the building intended to be used as a chair factory.

As a less than notable assignment, the still young lawyer was given the job in 1889 to oversee the building of a town lock-up that voters had approved at town meeting.

Also in 1889 he accepted Ellery C. Park, of Mexico, into his office to read law in preparation for entering the Oxford County Bar. Park was admitted to the county bar in 1890 at which time he became a junior law partner with Herrick. From 1895 on the office of Herrick and Park was in what was referred to at the time as the Savings Bank building, the Cole Block.

In 1889 the Bethel Water Company was incorporated. Herrick was one of the Corporators; after incorporation he was elected treasurer and clerk for many years thereafter.

He represented Oxford County in the State Legislature in 1891 and in the Senate in 1893. In 1893 he was a member of the Board of Trustees of Gould Academy. Following Glendon Hastings, he was president of the Board of Trustees for 16 years and was a member of the Board of Examiners. He was also a trustee of Bowdoin College. From 1899 to 1920 he was Judge of the Oxford County Probate Court.

## Woodstock Residents

### Town Meeting Warrant March 29, 2016

Any Woodstock Resident wishing to have an article placed on the 2016 Town Meeting Warrant agenda should submit it to the Selectmen on or before January 15, 2016 as set by town vote.

### Snow Plowing

Please remember that according to Maine State Law Title 29 section 2396 item 4, A person may not place and allow to remain on a public way snow or slush that has not accumulated there naturally.

### Dog Licenses

Dog Licenses for 2016 are now available at the Woodstock Town Office. Dogs that are six months or older, or within 10 of ownership, must now be licensed. License fees are \$6.00 neutered/spayed \$11.00 not neutered/spayed \$42.00 Kennel (10 or more) The Woodstock Dog Control Ordinance requires a kennel for more than three dogs at one residence. You will need to bring a current rabies immunization and a certificate of neutering or spaying, if applicable. A late fee of \$25.00 will be charged starting on February 1, 2016.

### Nomination papers

Nomination papers will be available at the Woodstock Town Office on December 30, 2015 for any Woodstock Resident interested in running for the office of Selectmen, Assessor & Overseer of the Poor or the office of MSAID #44 School Board Director.

Not less than 25, nor more than 100, signatures of registered Woodstock voters are required to file nomination papers at the Town Clerk's Office. Completed nomination papers are due at the Town Office on February 12, 2016, which is the required 45 days before the annual town meeting.

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He was a member of the Bethel Lodge F&AM. The Herrick's fine home on Broad Street was notable for its gardens, shrubs and stately trees. Addison and Mary Herrick had two daughters, Mrs. Lyndell Converse Blanchard of Abington, Mass., and Miss Margaret C. Herrick, Director of Prevention of Communicable Diseases in the State of Maine. Margaret Herrick was a constant supporter of the Bethel Historical Society and wrote a summary of Broad Street activities for the Society. She lived in Augusta.

Addison Herrick died in 1932 and his wife Mary died in 1936. They are buried at Riverside Cemetery.

## Bethel

By NANCY BROWN



I attended the 51st Annual Living Nativity on the Bethel Common on Sunday, Dec. 20. The temperature was 26 degrees F, the sky clear, and the ground covered with a dusting of snow leftover from Saturday's snow shower. Even so, it was one of warmest Living Nativity celebrations I have attended.

There is a lot of disappointment that we won't have a white Christmas. I love snow, too; how it looks and feels and the thrill of snowshoeing in the woods. But I'm okay with no snow for Christmas. For us in the northeastern United States it is normal and traditional to have snow at Christmas; last year we had a huge storm the day before Thanksgiving. But why do people in Florida and Arkansas wish for a white Christmas? I think the longing for a "white Christmas" is a relatively modern-day concept, one that has been helped along with some good marketing. Irving Berlin wrote the iconic, hugely popular "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas" in January 1940. It was recorded by Bing Crosby in 1942 and when Americans went overseas to fight in World War II, the song and the nostalgia went with them. The "white Christmas dream" was helped along by the snowy Christmas paintings of Norman Rockwell, Grandma Moses, and Thomas Kinkadee. That's despite the fact that there's only a 25 percent chance that where you are in the U.S. will have snow on Christmas Day. I've lived in many places where there was no snow at Christmas: Los Angeles, San Diego, Greensboro, N.C., and Norfolk, Va. Those cities have their own unique traditions: holiday lights on the boardwalk, poinsettias in outdoor gardens, Santa Claus riding a surfboard instead of skis. In California, my roommate Ken decorated tumbleweeds with lights. It was still Christmas, even without the snow. So, I hope you enjoy the warm December weather. Enjoy your holiday. Perhaps some of us will start new family traditions on Christmas: playing softball, taking a walk in the woods, or going to a movie. The snow will come eventually, and we will still enjoy it, whether it's December or January.

David Roberts reported that on Dec. 10 Bethel Lodge 30 of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons installed their officers for 2016. William McAloney was installed as Worshipful Master.

Story Time for children at the Bethel Library will resume in January after the holiday break. Story Time is held on the first and third Thursdays of the month (Jan. 7 and Jan. 21) at 10 a.m. at the library, which is located at 5 Broad Street. It's a great time to hear a story, play games, and socialize. A parent or caregiver must accompany children. The library is looking for parents, grandparents, and volunteers who would like to read or sing to children during Story Time. Please call Michelle at the library at 824-

2520 if you'd like to volunteer.

If you have news to share, please e-mail me at brownnancy1950@gmail.com.

## West Bethel

By KAREN PAUL



Tuesday the West Bethel Union church was filled to capacity as loved ones gathered to celebrate the life of Ina Grover. Nestled between my sister Audrey and me, daddy seemed at home in the pew. Pastor John Williams stood up to the microphone to share his personal stories of times at the "farm," read scripture and blessed the life of an extraordinary woman.

Three generations of her family spoke that day of the unconditional love and warmth that we all felt in her presence. Her joy of giving and receiving rang through loud and clear as each family member knitted us a bit closer with their special stories of Ina's gifts. Ina could often be found in the kitchen creating delicious meals for family and community. Her generosity came as easily as breathing.

My parents often played cards at the Grover farm and we kids felt right at home there too. The first time I remember seeing the flying monkeys in the Wizard of Oz it was on the little black and white TV at the farm. I could have been terrorized watching that movie but felt safe because I could hear the merry voices of the elders in the next room. The parties and gatherings at the farm were many and I will echo the sentiments I heard at her passing that the celebrations continue.

## East Bethel

By WALLY RITZ



We finally had a taste of winter. Some cold temperatures and even a dusting of snow, yet don't hold your breath, for it will warm up again in time for the Holiday. Please realize, that I am writing this late afternoon, Sunday the 20th, as the column has to be in early this week.

It was brought to my attention that Charlotte Kimball suffered a heart attack around Thanksgiving. You are in our thoughts and prayers, Charlotte, and we wish you a speedy recovery.

This morning, I also received a so-called wake-up call... luckily I was already sipping my first cup of coffee. Apparently my bank account was hacked yesterday. Am grateful that the fraud department of my bank caught it right away. This was a first for me. It serves as a reminder though, that in this age of technology we do need to pay close attention. Looks like I will need to use the power of the pen till I get my new debit card, hahaha.

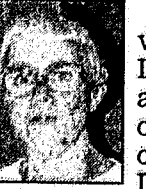
Over the course of the Holiday Season I ask for your support to get in touch with me with the tidbits etc. you want to share. At this time of year, most have a lot of things going on and I do not want to interrupt. So, please do call me at 507-1008 or e-mail heinrichcracker@gmail.com.

I wish everyone in East Bethel and all my readers a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays

May the force be with you... did not want to exclude the Star Wars fans. Merry Christmas.

## Bryant Pond

By ALICE HOYT



Judith Grover Tent 17 DUVOW met at the home of Alice Hoyt on Monday, Dec. 14 with 10 members present. Second nomination of officers was held and the officers were installed by PDP Elsie Bonney. Thank yous were read from Tugus for the money and gifts to the



**MASONS OFFICERS INSTALLED**-On Dec. 10 Bethel Lodge #30 of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons installed their officers for 2016. William McAloney was installed as Worshipful Master. Front: Gary Young, Gerry Martin, Ken Grover, W.M. William McAloney, Mike Lowe, David Roberts, Richard Halacy. Back: Adam Tanguay, Bill Myers, Todd Davis, Clayton Bartlett, and Lloyd Sweetser.

gift shop and veterans there. Elsie read about four Maine State Troopers who placed a wreath on Little Round Top in Gettysburg in December. Calls reported were 36 and the mystery package went to Sally Sawyer. Following the meeting and exchange of gifts and cards was held, also a tasteful party. There will be no meetings in January and February next year.

Services at the Baptist Church are Sunday School at 9:15, Morning Worship at 10:30, Evening Service at 6 p.m. Wednesday evening at 6:30 is Mid-Week Service. Tonight, Dec. 24, there will be a candlelight service at 6 p.m. All are welcome to attend. On Saturday, Dec. 13, Ladies' Coffee Cup Devotions met for a special edition. Fifteen ladies attended, games were played, plenty of eats, and Ashley and Paula did a special devotion demonstrating the real meaning of Christmas. A good time was enjoyed by all. Sunday evening, Dec. 13, was the Christmas program. Each class took part and did a very good job. Refreshments were served following in the fellowship hall.

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. Sympathy is extended to the family of Sylvia Clark, a former resident of the town.

## Andover

By JANE RICH



This past week postal patrons found an edition of The Eagle, the new Andover School Department newsletter. The school thanked the Hungry Kingdom Project for providing the financial resources to feed all of our students breakfast and lunch. Students report they are very happy with Food Service Director, Michelle Provencher's healthy and wholesome menus. Some of the menu consists of fresh produce has been provided by John Ricker. The school department is in need of a spare bus driver. Interested persons can call Superintendent Jack Turcott at 636-6622 or 392-4381. The breakdown of Andover students is as follows: Andover Elementary - 30, Telstar - 46, CPS - four, RSU 10 - seven, Gould, three, Eddy School - two, Guilford Christian Academy - one, Home Schooled - four. Total number of Andover students for whose education we are responsible is 97. That question has been asked frequently so I'm glad to supply the answer for the curious.

The Selectmen had a work session on Tuesday night to consider a number of assessing issues that require a good deal of time. The Budget Committee under the leadership of Leo Camire met on Wednesday. Minutes of previous meetings were approved which noted the Road Commissioner's accounts remained at 2015 levels with the exception of Cemetery which was increased \$600, The Town Common, \$200. Commissioner Mark Farrington suggested that the Designated High-

way Equipment Account be increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000 due to the high cost of new equipment and planning for the purchase of a new truck. Farrington has repaired our current truck to get a few more years out of it, but the Town will find it necessary to look at replacement in the not too distant future. The next big block of accounts to be dealt with are those that fall under the category of Town Office, including insurances and professional services. Taking a break for the Christmas holiday, the committee will meet again on Dec. 30 at 6 p.m.

Remember the Town Office will be closed today, Dec. 24, 25th, 31 and Jan. 1. Wednesday hours for Dec. 30 will be moved from afternoon to morning, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Also remember to license your dog. Bring proof of spaying or neutering and a current rabies shot.

Once the holidays are over, it's time to look forward to Town Meeting and elections. This year there are three slots where you could serve your community, two three year positions on the School Board and one three year term as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor. Nomination Papers will be available at the Town Office beginning Dec. 28.

A traditional candle lighting service will be held tonight at 7 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, church on the common. There will also be a service at Calvary Bible Church, but I don't have the time, call Keith Smith for the info.

As a famous person once said, "Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night."

## Gilead

By LIN CHAPMAN



Saturday was a day of snowstorms. They started mid-morning and lasted throughout the day. It snowed for a while and then the sun came out. This repeated until afternoon and then by evening the snow had covered the ground. On Sunday morning, there was about an inch or so that had accumulated.

My brother, Steve McLain, has been busy getting ready for Christmas. Last minute shopping and package mailing, just like we have been doing.

Hugh and I headed out the other day to do some shopping. We started with North Conway, headed through Crawford Notch and ended up in Littleton, N.H. We stopped to see our son, Tim, who was at work at Littleton Chevrolet.

Our granddaughter, Sidney Chapman, is playing for an all-girl youth hockey team (ages up to 14 years old) at Plymouth State College. They lost the game last Friday night but Sidney scored the one goal the team made on a breakaway play. It was her first goal of this season. She was presented with the game puck by the coach.

Merry Christmas to all the Gilead column readers! Let me know if you have any news for the column-any Christmas company and celebrations.

## Locke's Mills

By AMY WIGHT CHAPMAN



Merry Christmas, one and all! As I write this (Sunday), temperatures in the 20s have preserved the little bit of snow we got on Saturday, but it sounds like it's probably going to melt by Christmas Eve.

I was out doing errands when the first of the snow squalls hit - it only lasted about ten minutes, but it was certainly intense! I was in The Local Hub when it started, and was quite surprised to look out and see white-out conditions.

Speaking of The Local Hub, as of Jan. 1 they'll be open until 10 p.m. on Fridays for Taco Night. They held a trial run/"soft opening" last Friday and it was a great success.

Norm Milliard had left in sunshine to walk to the post office Saturday morning and got caught in the sudden blizzard on the way. He said his toes got a bit nippy, but the sun was back out by the time he got home.

I finished my rather minimal Christmas shopping on Saturday morning with a quick trip to The Hub and a few stores in Bethel. Besides the benefit to the local economy of shopping locally, I really appreciated not having to fight crowds or stand in long lines. I left the house at 9:30 and was home two hours later with everything done, plus I got to chat with people I actually know in all the stores I visited.

Will attended a book launch for Dean Bennett's new book, Ghost Buck, at the Bethel Historical Society on Saturday afternoon. I had planned to go, too, but decided I was too far behind in the pre-holiday cooking and cleaning department to leave the house again. Will bought a copy of the book, and Tony and I look forward to reading it.

The first order of 100 copies of The Early History of Greenwood sold quickly, and a second shipment arrived on Saturday. If you didn't pick one up before Christmas, Kim and Angie should have plenty available when the Town Office reopens on Monday.

For the past couple of winters, I've hung my birdfeeders from the clothesline in my backyard. I had a good view of them from the kitchen window over the sink, but they were a little too far away to suit me, so I put up a metal pole with two hooks outside the window and hung them there instead. I also put another pole on the other side of the house, outside the opposite kitchen window, and hung two more feeders there. I hope that will eventually give the cats hours of entertainment, since on that side they can sit on a low windowsill to watch the birds instead of trying to climb up onto the sink to see out the other window. So far, though, no birds have found the new feeders attractive. Or maybe they just don't like dining while three cats watch them and smack their lips a few feet away.

The Christmas Eve service at the Locke Mills

Union Church is at 6 p.m. tonight, and the First Universalist Church of West Paris is having their candlelight service at 5 p.m.

I hope everyone has a warm and wonderful holiday with family and friends. I'm very much looking forward to having two of our daughters and our grand-dog spend a few days.

E-mail your news to amy.w.chapman@gmail.com, leave a message at 875-5511, or contact me on Facebook.

## Upton

By JOE BERNIER



I have heard a rumor that The Ladies Aid will start serving Sunday Breakfasts soon. I will let you know the details as soon as I receive them.

On Sunday, Dec. 20, Old Man Winter made a feeble attempt to show up. Upton received a little bit of snow, the wind was howling and the temperature dropped down to 14 degrees. Don't get your hopes up for a white Christmas though. Meteorologists are forecasting a warm Christmas Eve, 55 degrees plus, and low 40s and sunshine for Christmas Day. I hope all of you have a Merry Christmas.

Please call 533-2010 or e-mail backstjoe@gmail.com with your local news.

## So. Woodstock

By LOLALEE DILLINGHAM



11:05 a.m. Dec. 18 Good morning y'all, the temperature is 42 degrees with a heavy overcast, and the wind is blowing but the blue sky is showing through in some spots.

Condolences are going out to the families of Richard H. McCann, Ina Ellingwood Grover, Rita J. Owens Herrick, Timothy J. Bryant and Peter M. Smalley. Thoughts and prayers to each family member on the loss of their loved ones.

Spent most of the week getting last minute gifts done and now to get them bagged, wrapped and tagged for delivery over the weekend.

The wood haulers (truckers) are busy getting their loads to the mills and delivering fire wood to their customers.

Special prayers to all those who are having medical issues. Our hearts go out to each one for comfort and healing rest.

Went to get fitted for new eyeglasses Monday. Now with the surgeries over hopefully the new glasses will be a big help.

Birthday wishes for those celebrating in December - Cleo Ryerson, Jim Mason Jr., Laurie Wilson, Paul Benson, Alex Poland, Bill Grover, Roni Grover, Jr., Donna Danforth, Phil Merrill, and Jayme Mack.

Anniversary wishes are going out to Randy and Tia Gladden and Kevin and Natasha Hodson.

I am headed to the kitchen to make a chop suey for supper with hot biscuits and a homemade bread pudding, we are having several folks in for the evening.

That's all from the valley this week, stay well and have a wonderful weekend.

Wishing each of you a very Merry Christmas.

## Mason

By RICHARD GROVER



On one of those cool cloudy drippy days a couple weeks ago, I decided to take Shiloh on a hike up Caribou Mt., since I was still waiting for my tractor winch to be repaired. The temperature was in the mid 30's, so I took an extra sweatshirt for warmth. I intended to do the two trails that intersect at the trailhead parking area on route 113 a short ride from Gilead, but I found that road closed for the winter, so decided to make an "up

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and back" from the Bog Brook trail.

As we left the truck at the trailhead, the fog settled in, the trail was wet and slippery where leaves covered it, but it was not raining, so we headed up the trail, with Shiloh leading the way and loping this way and that, his nose to the ground, sampling the odors at top speed in this new environment. The fog thickened as we entered into a large grove of hemlock trees, leaving everything a little out of focus and indistinct, the trees sort of fading into the mist; no breeze stirred the air, and silence enveloped us; the only sound I could hear was the faint rushing sound of the tinnitis in my inner ears. We hiked on. Shiloh still sampling the odors on both sides of the trail ahead. The trail steepened. A few patches of wet snow appeared here and there on the leaves and the green moss covering the rocks and old logs.

As we ascended higher, the patches of snow became more prevalent, with icy footprints in the steeper parts of the trail where hikers had passed some time ago when the snow was fresh. I began

looking for the sign indicating that we were entering the Caribou - Speckled Mt. Wilderness area, but someone must have moved it back a number of years ago because I could have sworn I should have passed it by now! I was wearing my new "Hi Tech" hiking shoes from Cabelas, but I still slipped a bit on some of those icy footprints on the steeper slopes. I then decided Shiloh and I would turn back when we came to the Wilderness Area sign because I didn't want to break a leg, or something, and have to call for a rescue.

Finally, I could see the sign we were looking for. Now I could take a break, eat my orange and peanut butter covered Ritz crackers. I ate standing up, because everything was wet, and I didn't want wet pants. I saved a few peanut butter crackers to eat on the way down, and I tried to keep them hidden from Shiloh. He was too observant for me! I'd wait until he had gotten out of sight and sneak a cracker out of my pocket, trying not to wrinkle the paper so Shiloh wouldn't hear, but it didn't work. No matter how far away Shiloh was, when the paper crinkled, Shiloh would look back

and come running back to me, his nose up, eyes focused and that intent look until he got his bite!

I felt pretty good when we got home with no ill effects, but Shiloh was bushed! He'd lie down and didn't want to move enough to get up - unless there was a treat for him! Next day he was so stiff he could hardly get up. It took a couple days for him to recover!

I am happy now! It is Dec 21. My winch is fixed. My Grandson Jacob graduated from College in Illinois, and Mona and I are safely back in Maine. I'm ready to start logging again! Merry Christmas to all my readers!

## Hanover

By MARIA HOLLOWAY



**Town Business**  
A reminder from the Hanover Town Office - property taxes

paid by Dec. 31, 2015 will receive a 2 percent reduction.

Dog licenses are due Dec. 31. Fees are \$11 for male/female or \$6 for spayed/neutered dogs. Please bring proof of your dog's rabies and spay/neuter

certificate. There will be a \$25 late fee imposed after Jan. 31, 2016. For any animal control issues or concerns, please do not call the Town Office; you may reach the Oxford County Sheriff's Office directly at 800-733-1421.

The Library will be closed for the holidays and will resume regular hours on Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2016.

Wishing everyone a blessed holiday season. Live in the moment. Enjoy family, friends and the beauty of the season. Think Snow!

## Waterford

By ROCKIE GRAHAM



Christmas is upon us. I got a final present today at my least favorite store.

There were no greeters, the riding scooters didn't work and there was no one around to help a poor girl. There were a few nice people, but not as many as I've seen elsewhere lately.

At Hannaford, Walgreens and a few other places I've visited lately, people go out of their way to help. That is as it should be. That is what I always did.

Now people seem to be so into their own stuff that they care little about anyone else. It is sad. We really are all in this together and the sooner we realize it the better. What better time than holiday season to practice good will towards others.

Yesterday, Saturday, it was spitting snow when I came home just after noon. When I got here the ground was covered in snow. It didn't stay and we didn't get much more, but here it was when I got home. Today it was windy and cold - compared to what it has been, not to what it should be in December. I feel like an old person when I say, I remember one winter when it was 20 below for a week or two in December. But, it is true and I do remember, especially the year we had a coal stove to stay warm. Coal leaves a film of black soot everywhere. We had no covers on our cupboards. Open cupboard were supposed to be the rage. It was a mess. Never do that again.

In any case, I hope all are ready for the holidays as they are here ready or not. I have presents wrapped and we'll need to deliver them this week. I haven't

been able to bake present like usual, but it is what it is. I am learning to let things go and only do what I can.

Today, Dec. 24 is Christmas Eve. The annual Christmas Eve service will be at 5 p.m. at the Waterford Congregational Church. The service will feature choral music, readings and a live nativity scene with special music. All are invited.

Now that it is officially winter I guess I will have to start wearing my winter jacket and not just a fleece. I haven't had to be out for long periods of time, so I have gotten away with just wearing a fleece. In past years I actually liked getting bundled up. This year I am not interested. Maybe that's because it has been so warm. I am lucky I have warm clothes to wear. Usually we bring extra coats to the cleaners in Norway and they turn them over to coats for kids. We also have been known to bring gloves, mittens and hats to the schools. Kids are always losing theirs.

That is all for this week. Have a great holiday and if you have something you want me to put in this column please call me at 743-0583.



## Early Learning Center recognized

This fall 5210 Let's Go! Oxford County presented Jeffrae Alford and the Bethel Early Learning Center their Gold Site of Distinction Recognition Certificate and Koral Kimball, Terry Childs and Nurturing Vines their Silver Site of Distinction Recognition Certificate for the 2014-2015 program year. These recognize their commitment to creating healthy environments for the children in their care. By adopting healthy eating and active living practices these sites are positively influencing the choices children make.

"This is the fourth year we've officially recognized sites for their hard work. I couldn't be more proud of the progress these sites have made. Sites are providing healthy, high energy snack choices, finding fun, creative ways to increase activity levels, and many have completely removed televisions

from their spaces," said Dr. Victoria Rogers, Director of the Let's Go! program. "Thanks to changes like these, we're seeing Maine's childhood obesity rates level off."

Established in 2012, the Let's Go! Recognition Program identifies and celebrates schools, out-of-school programs, child care programs and health care practices for their commitment to improving the health of all children. Let's Go! strives for policy change but recognizes three levels of change: Bronze reflects a site implementing the program's five priority strategies, Silver acknowledges a site that has communicated these changes to parents and family members and Gold, the highest level of recognition, is reserved for sites that have written all five priority strategies into policy. A total of 460 sites are being recognized this year, a 25% increase

from 2014.

Let's Go! is a nationally recognized childhood obesity prevention program that reaches children and families where they live, learn, work and play. Let's Go! is committed to changing environments and policies at child cares, schools, out-of-school programs, health care practices, workplaces and communities. The program's multi-sector approach, daily 5-2-1-0 message (five or more fruits and vegetables, two hours or less of screen time, one hour or more of physical activity and zero sugary drinks) and 10 evidence-based strategies are used to effect change across the state of Maine. Strong leadership from The Barbara Bush Children's Hospital at Maine Medical Center and collaboration across health systems and community health coalitions contribute to the program's success.

## Milfoil Control project shows results

In the Spring, Jim Chandler, Manager of the Community Lakes Association's Invasive Milfoil project, announced that the Maine Department of Environmental Protection had awarded the Association a grant of over \$12,000. The funding helps support the ongoing fight against variable milfoil, an innocent looking plant that threatens to choke out areas of Lake Christopher and Shagg Pond. Recently, Chandler prepared a report to the DEP documenting the activities and progress of the work carried out this summer. He said, "The Community Lakes Association's Milfoil Control Program has made significant progress in all areas of Lake Christopher and in two of five infested areas in Shagg Pond."

The control effort is important because, left unchecked, milfoil and other invasive species can multiply rapidly, covering lakes and ponds with vast areas of unwanted weeds, affecting not only other wildlife and recreational activities, but also significantly lowering property values. Invasive milfoil has been identified in two areas of Lake Christopher: the Cove and the Outlet across the road from the main body of water. The Community Lakes Association has been struggling to fight this menace for years. The state funding, along with lesser, but important funds from the town of Woodstock, Spruce Mountain Wind, and donations from CLA members has enabled a more intensive and focused effort. Chandler reports that effort has been rewarded.

Chandler commented, "Our divers and support staff worked very hard this summer and we are honing our techniques more effectively each year. Further and more importantly, we worked on getting good pre- and post- season surveys to gauge how we are doing overall towards the goal of eliminating the milfoil. Surveys for Christopher were very complete and showed that we are getting close to completion in the Christopher Cove and have effectively limited the infestation to a small area in the middle of the Christopher Outlet Pond. On Shagg Pond the main area of focus was in the north end of the pond and the project made significant progress here. "Although Chandler reported progress in the south end of the pond, still more effort is needed in this area.

Chandler's report documents impressive effort and progress. For example, Lake Christopher Cove started the season with 1900 square feet of patches, 7253 square feet of sparse infestation, 9624 square feet of moderate infestation and 2063 square feet of heavily infested areas. The season ended with only 100 square feet of patches and 3763 square feet of sparse infestation. In this area divers and volunteers are literally getting down to mopping up the remaining milfoil plants in the next year and fighting any places it pops up.

For Lake Christopher Outlet, the season started with 900 square feet of patches, 2469 square feet of sparse infestation, and 20,052 square feet of heavily infested areas. The season ended with only 200 square feet of patches, 200 square feet of sparse infestation and 3556 square feet of heavily infested areas. Details for both Lake Christopher and Shagg Pond will soon be posted on the CLA web site, [www.communitylakesassociation.org](http://www.communitylakesassociation.org).

Chandler summarized, "Because we have learned how to be systematic, we are making much quicker progress in this area than expected. The remaining infestations are limited to an area in the middle of the Outlet Pond of Lake Christopher that is surrounded by mats. There is virtually no significant milfoil growth area. Therefore, in the last 3 years we have gone from about 1.5 acres of infestation down to less than a tenth of an acre. We are progressing very well in this area."

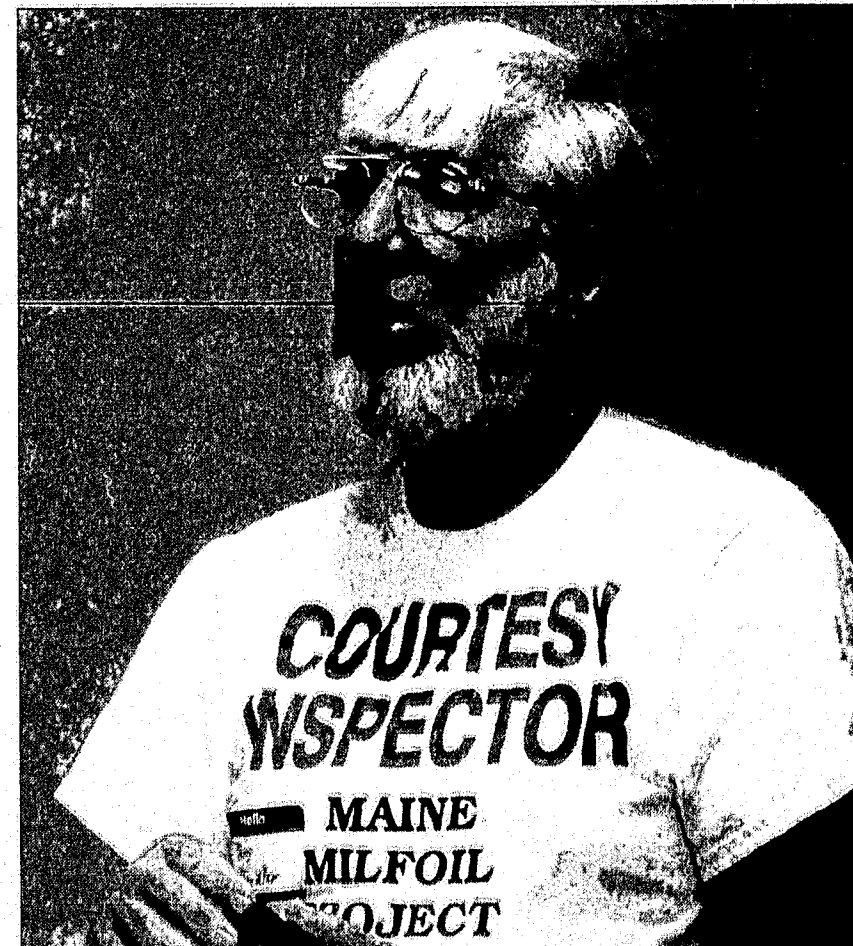
Chandler's team of professional divers and volunteers use a two pronged attack. First they lay down heavy mats called benthic barriers that stifle the plants' ability to grow and propagate. The CLA team has devised a unique system using a specially adapted boat assisted by divers to roll out the mats which have been built by the team. They also pull plants by hand, but that requires great expertise and care, as tiny broken off pieces soon root and develop into full size plants. For example, a small fragment of milfoil caught on the motor or rudder of a boat from one pond can totally infest another pond in a few years. This year, the CLA team covered 17,075 square feet with mats in Lake Christopher and hand pulled 1834 gallons of plants. In Shagg Pond they matted 2700 square feet and pulled 2175 gallons of weeds, an amazing accomplishment.

Although the Milfoil control project team is winning battles, they have not yet won the war. The Community Lakes Association is committed to continuing the effort and is confident that Chandler and his divers and volunteers will prevail in the end, assuming the community continues to value and support the work. - Pat Stewart



LEARNING TO GIVE-The Bethel Early Learning Center asked its families and children to donate food to Responsible Pet Care this holiday season to teach the children that not only is it the time of year to get gifts but it is also the season for giving to those in need. Responsible Pet Care also talked to the children about what they do to care for the many animals who need a family to love them. Currently RPC has 12 dogs and many cats who need homes.

Submitted photo



Jim Chandler talks about the Community Lakes Association Milfoil Control Program.

Submitted photo

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#### DANCING WITH THE PIRATES

The Toe Tappin' Jazz Dance Studio of Bethel was recently invited to take part in a dance-themed "Flash Mob" at a Portland Pirates game. Together with two other Maine studios, two dozen Bethel-area dancers stood up at their seats during a timeout and did an in-place dance routine. The one-minute performance was a surprise (the dancers hid their shirts under jackets until the last moment) to spectators, who watched them on the big screen above the rink and clapped and cheered, according to dance teacher Maryanne Jordan. A total of 100 dancers took part. It went over so well, she said, that the American Hockey League is considering trying it at other AHL rinks around the country.

Submitted photo

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Thursday, Dec. 24

**Family Christmas Eve Service with Bells;** 4 p.m., West Parish Congregational Church, Church Street, Bethel.

**Annual Christmas Eve Service;** 5 p.m., Waterford Congregational Church. This service will feature choral music, readings, and a live nativity scene with special music. All are invited. FMI: Waterford Congregational Church's Facebook page.

**Christmas Eve Service;** 6 p.m., Locke Mills Union Church.

**Candlelight Christmas Eve Service with Choir;** 7 p.m., West Parish Congregational Church, Church Street, Bethel.

**Candlelight Christmas Eve Service;** 7 p.m., Bethel Alliance Church, 251 Walker's Mills Rd. (across from Telstar parking lot). Call 207-824-2289 for more info.

### Saturday, Dec. 26

**Full Moon Hike with Crime Scene at Mt. Abram Ski Area;** Classic rock with a twist. 8 p.m.-12 a.m., Loose Boots Lounge. 207-875-5000, [www.mtabram.com](http://www.mtabram.com).

### Monday, Dec. 28

**Free Screenings of 'Casablanca';** 2, 4:30 and 7 p.m., The Gem Theater, 23 Cross Street, Bethel. Please join us at The Gem to celebrate the successful end to our ticket sales campaign to upgrade two movie theaters! Thanks to everyone for your support in helping The Gem move into the digital future. Today, we'll take a second to remember our past as Casablanca Cinema. (Rated PG).

**Family Peak Dinner at Sunday River;** 6 p.m. Ride the Chondola to the resort's mid-mountain Peak Lodge for a family dinner with special guests Eddy the Yeti and his friend, Betty. Date subject to change. FMI: 800-543-2754, [www.sundayriver.com](http://www.sundayriver.com).

**Free Fireside Chat "The History of Maine Skiing 1870-Present";** 7 p.m., Bethel Inn, Gibson Room. Free slide show with commentary about the History of Maine Skiing 1870-2015. Presented by the Ski Museum of Maine.

**Black Diamond Entertainment presents Hoopalula's Fire Gaia;** Slopeside at 7:45 & 8:15 p.m. Diane Kibbin has been performing at Sunday River for several years now. Her Hoopalula fire dancing performances have become a staple in heating up our cold winter season. Diane's energetic fire dancing routine includes various flaming objects set to music. Followed by fireworks at 8:30 p.m. FMI: 800-543-2754, [www.sundayriver.com](http://www.sundayriver.com)

### Wednesday, Dec. 30

**Gould Academy "Hot Cocoa Hello" at Sunday River;** 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., slopeside at the Gould Academy Competition Program building in Sunday River's Barker basin. Gould's full-time coaches, faculty, and students will be on hand to share their academic and athletic experiences and answer any questions. More information at [gouldacademy.org](http://gouldacademy.org).

### Thursday, Dec. 31

**Skosh and Fireworks at Mt. Abram Ski Area;** Spectacular fireworks display at 9 p.m., then Skosh live in the Loose Boots Lounge from 10 p.m. - 1 a.m., \$10 cover charge. FMI: 207-875-5000, [www.mtabram.com](http://www.mtabram.com).

**Peak Dinner at Sunday River;** New Year's Eve Party. FMI: 800-543-2754, [www.sundayriver.com](http://www.sundayriver.com)

**New Year's Eve Celebration at Bethel Inn Resort;** Ring in the New Year at The Bethel Inn Resort in the heart of Bethel, Maine. The evening begins with a five course dinner in our Main Dining Room, 5pm-10pm, then the party starts in The Millbrook Tavern & Grille, downstairs at The Inn through late night. An evening of dinner, dancing & cocktails with Rob Robbins! Plus, horse drawn sleigh rides, ice skating, fam-

ily activities on the Bethel Common & more. FMI: 824-2175

**Black Diamond Entertainment presents The PG-13 New Year's Eve Party at Sunday River;** Kids shouldn't have to miss out on the New Year's Eve festivities because it's past their bedtime. This is a party for all ages in the Mahoosuc Room that no one in the family will want to pass up. G-Force Laser Tag will be back again, with other attractions like a photo booth, inflatable sumo wrestling, and GaGa Ball. Kids will even be counting down to midnight (in Iceland) at 8PM. FMI: 800-543-2754, [www.sundayriver.com](http://www.sundayriver.com)

### Friday, Jan. 1

**32nd Carter's Last Stand Carter's XC Ski Center;** Come celebrate with a New Year ski or snowshoe at Carter's Bethel location at 786 Intervale Road. Potluck lunch to follow. 207-824-3880, [www.cartersxcski.com](http://www.cartersxcski.com)

### Monday, Jan. 4

**Socrates Café Meeting;** 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Waterford Library. Discussion topic: Gun violence. Moderator: Robert Casimiro. Light refreshments provided. FMI or snow date: 583-6957.

### Wednesday, Jan. 6

**Swingin' Bears Square Dance Club Beginner Classes;** 6:30 to 7:45, Oxford Hills Middle School cafeteria, 100 Pine Street, South Paris. This is the first in a 15-week adult education program. Tuition: \$45. FMI: [swinginbears.squareandcance.us](http://swinginbears.squareandcance.us).

### Thursday, Jan. 7

**Story Time at the Bethel Library;** 10 a.m., Bethel Library, 5 Broad Street (across from the Common). Read a story, sing, and play at the library. A parent or caregiver must accompany the child. FMI call the library at 824-2520.

**Stephanie Emery Presentation;** 6:30 p.m., West Paris Library. Stephanie will present a talk and show pictures from her adventures with a tour company called Adventure Bus. Her travels with Adventure Bus have taken her to all 50 states and 45 of the 50 National Parks. Stephanie's photographs of the Western National Parks are currently on display at the library. FMI: 674-2004.

### Saturday, Jan. 9

**Ski Museum of Maine 2nd Annual Vintage Ski Fashion Show;** 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Bethel Inn, main dining room. \$25 admission fee includes hors d'oeuvres. There will be a full cash bar. Door prizes. Proceeds will go toward establishing a Bethel satellite exhibit.

### Sunday, Jan. 10

**John Waller in Concert (Sponsored by The Lighthouse Events);** 6 p.m., Bethel Alliance Church, 251 Walker's Mills Road (across from Telstar parking lot). John Waller's songs have been featured in the movies Fireproof and War Room. The concert is free with a love offering being taken. Please join us! FMI: 207-824-2289

### Tuesday, Jan. 12

**Beginning Ukulele Class;** 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Telstar High School, Room 218. Participants should bring a ukulele and a curiosity to learn how to use it. We will cover chord playing, music reading, and singing and playing. Max.-8 students. Instructor: Simon Smith. Tuition: \$45.

**Beginner Fiddling;** 6 to 7 p.m., Telstar High School, Room 133. Instructor: Paul Cormier. This is the first in a 6-week course series. Come and learn to play the fiddle! Paul teaches and plays in the oral tradition. He has been playing for about 40 years. You will start out learning a simple tune and then explore ways to enhance it. He also uses a "call and response" technique where the student will mimic back what he plays. Min.-4, Max.-5 students. Tuition: \$160.

**Beginning Guitar Class;** 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Telstar High School, Room 218. Students will cover chord-playing and will be singing and playing. Bring a guitar and a curiosity to learn how to use it. Max.-6 students. Instructor: Simon Smith. Tuition: \$45.

### Wednesday, Jan. 13

**Bethel Senior Citizens Meeting/Luncheon;** 11 a.m., Bethel Methodist Church. This is a potluck dinner; members are asked to bring a dish to share. The auction will also be held, and members are asked to bring items to be auctioned off.

**Polite Puppy/Young Dog Training;** 6 to 7 p.m., Greenwood Town Hall. This is the first in a six-week course series. Open to puppies and young dogs from 12 weeks up to one year old. Learn positive methods for training your pup to politely greet people and other dogs, loose leash walking, sit, down, stay and some tricks too! This class is based on AKC Star Puppy syllabus. Bring your pup wearing a regular flat buckle collar and 4-6 foot leash. No choke chains or prong collars. Bring 2-3 cups of small, soft treats (small pieces of cheese, hot dogs, liver, purchase soft treats) A clicker will be supplied. This class is not suitable for reactive dogs. If you have question if this class is for you and your pup contact India (cobs@roadrunner.com) to discuss. India Baker KPA-CTP, is a graduate and certified training partner of Karen Pryor Academy specializing in positive training methods. India has trained horses and dogs for over 35 years. She has Australian Shepherds and competes in AKC Rally competition. For more information about her training methods go to [www.moxiedogtraining.com](http://www.moxiedogtraining.com). Tuition: \$75.

**Voice Lessons;** 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Telstar High School, Room 218. This is the first in a six-week course series for people with a love of singing but no formal training, you will cover healthy use of your voice, singing solo songs and some choral music, and music reading. Instructor: Simon Smith. Tuition: \$45.

### Jan. 14 and 21

**First Aid/CPR Course;** 6 to 10 p.m., Bethel Family Health Center. CPR includes: adult, child & infant CPR; obstructed airway. First Aid includes: burns, controlling bleeding, broken bones, poisoning, soft tissue injuries, heat & cold exposure, bandaging. You will receive a 3-year certificate in First Aid and a 1-year certificate in CPR. Limit 10 students. Instructor: Jeannine Thornton. Tuition: \$55. FMI: <http://sad44.maineadulted.org/>.

### Thursday, Jan. 14

**Bethel Area Prevention Task Force Meeting;** 3 p.m., SAD 44 Main Office.

**Age-Friendly Community Gathering;** 4 to 6 p.m., West Parish Congregational Church, Church Street, Bethel. Hear from and talk with Amy Flowers of Analytic Insight in Lewiston regarding her analysis of data collected from over 200 Age-Friendly Community surveys.

### Saturday, Jan. 16

**Community Supper and Palestine Talk;** 6 p.m., West Parish Congregational Church, Church Street, Bethel. Jim Chandler will talk about the people of Palestine and the culture of the region. He spent 2 1/2 weeks in the country this past summer. Community Supper of baked beans and casseroles and homemade pies prior to the talk. Donations for the Smile Fund.

### Thursday, Jan. 21

**Story Time at the Bethel Library;** 10 a.m., Bethel Library, 5 Broad Street (across from the Common). Read a story, sing, and play at the library. A parent or caregiver must accompany the child. FMI call the library at 824-2520.

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# The Satellite

Newsletter of School Administrative District #44: Bethel • Greenwood • Newry • Woodstock

## CRESCENT PARK SCHOOL



The CPS chorus sang for the Bethel Senior Citizens at the Sudbury Inn recently.



CPS instrumentalists get ready to play for the Senior Citizens.

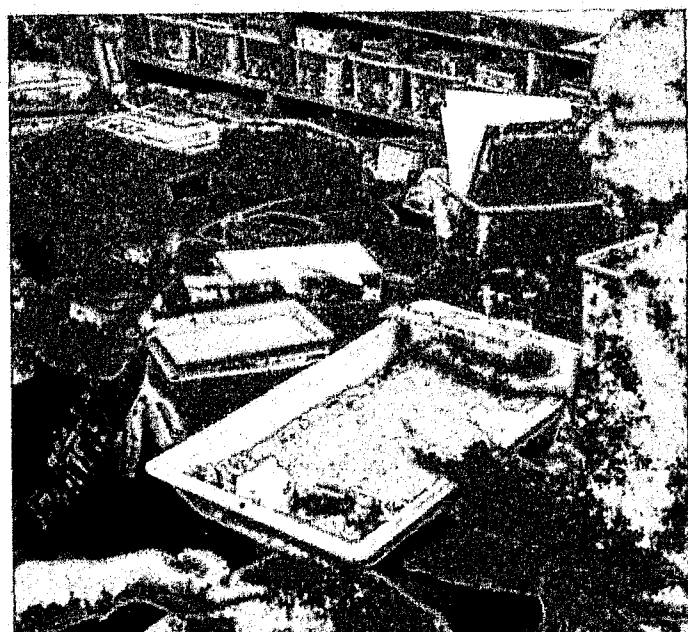


Members of the CPS chorus sing before Santa's arrival at Breakfast with Santa.



Second grade students at Crescent Park School kicked off their first of three Trimester Teas, to celebrate writing, with special guest speaker, Heidi Bullen. Bullen is a fifth grade teacher at CPS and author of the book, Eddy the Yeti. Bullen, accompanied by the book's character, Eddy, shared the story with second graders while explaining key points about the importance of the writing process. Bullen surprised all the children with their own copy of the book. The children concluded their day with sharing their own stories, iced tea and cookies.

## WOODSTOCK ELEMENTARY

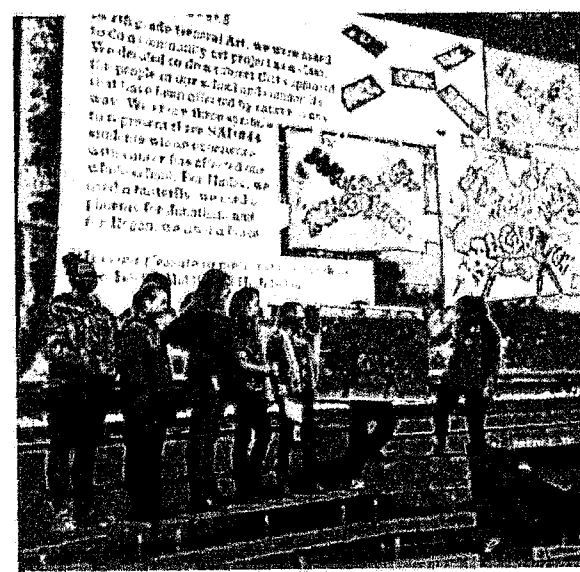


The kids at WES have been studying erosion, and they used stream bed trays to compare average flows with flooding. Then they used rocks to try to engineer ways to slow down the erosion.

## TELSTAR MIDDLE SCHOOL



The Telstar Faculty was proud to recognize November Super Stars Kat Haley (8th grader), Macie Hallett (6th grader) and Utah Bean (7th grader). They represent everything we look for in respectful, accepting and persevering students and we are fortunate to have them as part of our TMS community.



In the TMS 7th grade General Art class students were asked to do a community art project as a class. They decided to do a project that supported the people in our school and community that have been affected by cancer in any way. The class chose three symbols to represent three SAD 44 students whose experience with cancer has affected our whole school. For Hailey, they used a butterfly, they used a phoenix for Jonathon, and for Regan, they used a horse. The students worked together to plan and create this mural, and they presented it in front of the THS student body in an assembly on Dec. 9, and the mural will soon be hung in the red tile area here at Telstar. Pictured above left is "We Shall," mixed media on canvas by Dylan Duclos, Juliann Francis, Autumn Harrison, Taylor Hoyt, Caiden Hutchins, Melissa Prescott, J-Lyn Roy, Shelby Thorman, and Romeo Villanueva. Above right: Students present their mural in front of the THS student body.

**THESE BUSINESSES PROUDLY SUPPORT THE SAD #44 SPORTS SCHEDULE & SATELLITE PAGE**

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# Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

## RIDDLE SEARCH - GIFT GUIDE

Look up, down, and diagonally, both forward and backward to find every word on the list. Circle each one as you find it. When all the words are circled, take the UNUSED letters and write them on the blanks below. Go from left to right and top to bottom to find the answer to this riddle: What gift would you give to a spider?

- BAT
- BIKE
- CANDY
- COMPUTER
- CRAYONS
- DRUM
- EASEL
- GAME
- GIFT CARD
- GLOBE
- KITE
- MONEY
- PAINTS
- PUPPET
- PUZZLE
- ROBE
- ROBOT
- SHOES
- SLED
- VIDEO

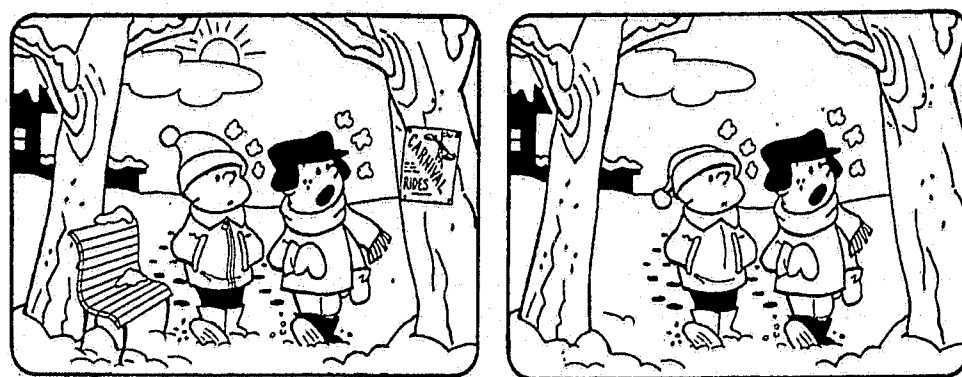
A D R A C T F I G B  
K I T E M A G Y L O  
P A I N T S P E O E  
O L K A B U O N B K  
U E T M Z W P O E I  
B S S Z U E R M V B  
B A L H S R I I O T  
E E T S O Y D N A C  
R O B O T E P P U P  
C R A Y O N S L E D

Riddle answer: \_\_\_\_\_

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



- 1. Bench is missing. 2. Sun is missing. 3. Hat is different.
- 4. Zipper on coat is missing. 5. Scarf is shorter. 6. Poster is missing.

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## CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: J equals P

SQKOUIUQC BQALZG RV K

YAQHJ QB JZQJOZ PXQ XKG

RZSQLZ PZKAV QB OZKACUCY:

RQAZG QB ZGHSKIUQC.

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## SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Agile  
RIMBLE  
Alike  
QUALE  
Secret  
VECTOR  
Smart  
STATUE

TODAY'S WORD

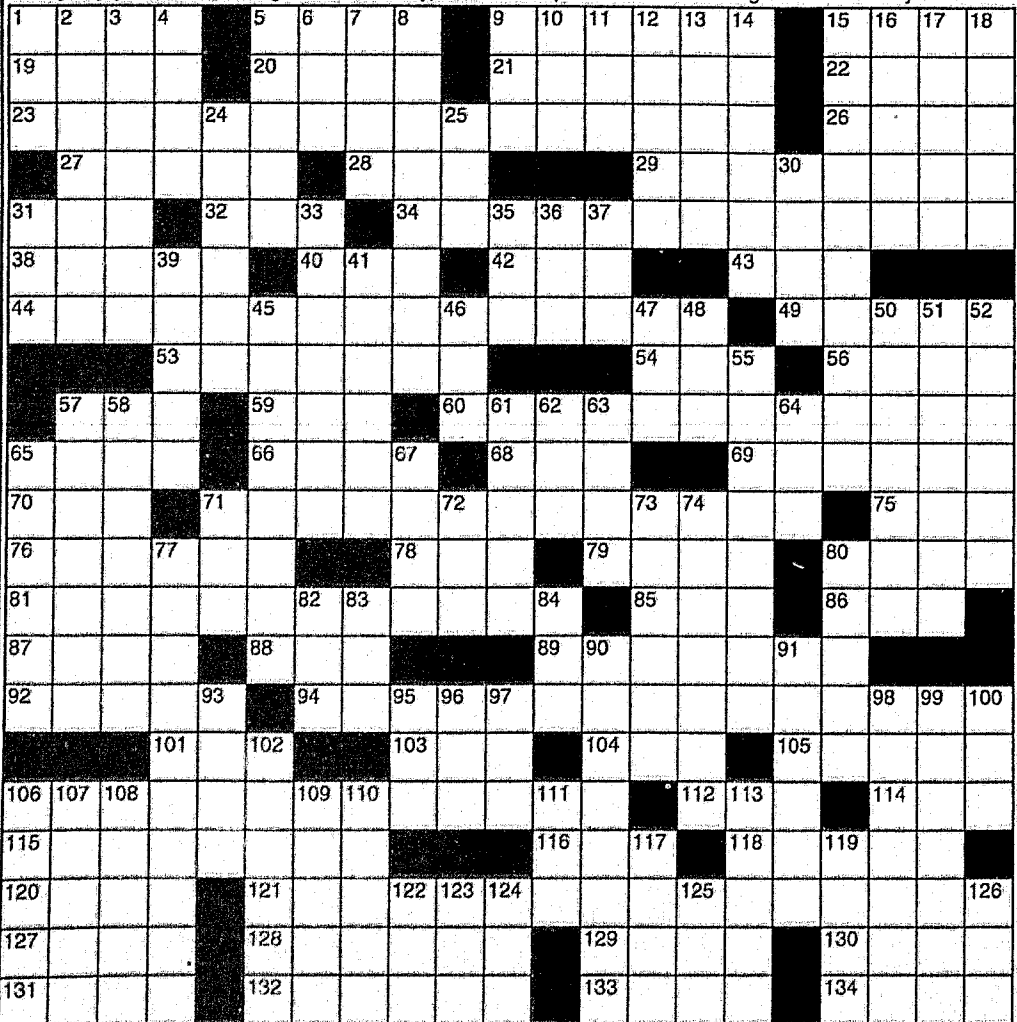


"I'm going steady with a physicist ...  
Do you have anything that will make  
me smell ... ?"

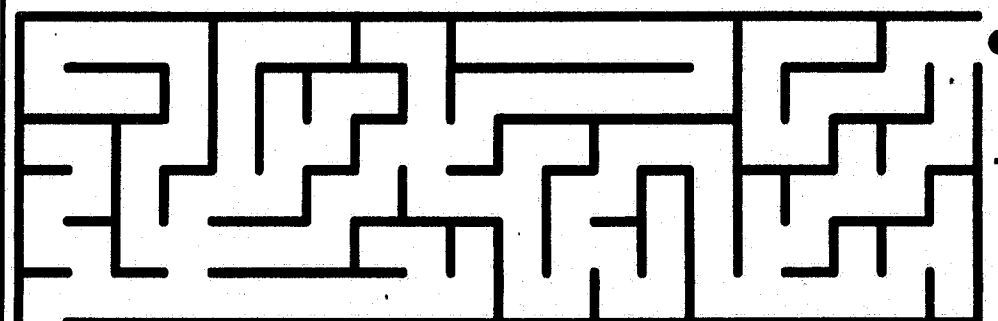
## Super Crossword

TA-DA!

- ACROSS
- 1 Laughing sound
  - 5 Friends, in French
  - 9 Black Sea port
  - 15 Tick away
  - 19 Univ. VIP
  - 20 Not yet finalized, in law
  - 21 Dorn-mate, e.g.
  - 22 Yam, for one
  - 23 Pulling a plug while at work?
  - 26 Airport for Air France
  - 27 "Old MacDonald" sequence
  - 28 Part of NYC
  - 29 Avoid booze
  - 31 Rough amt.
  - 32 Cat covering
  - 34 Water balloon battles?
  - 38 — boredom (endure extreme tedium)
  - 40 Frazier's longtime foe
  - 42 Waikiki neckwear
  - 43 "That's neither here — there"
  - 44 Unaffected by kilijays?
  - 49 Strips (off)
  - 53 Vehicles like Santa's
  - 54 Rowing tool
  - 56 Jai — (fronton sport)
  - 57 Put in words
  - 59 Avenues: Abbr.
  - 60 Ancient valley where female spouses lived?
  - 65 Brick haulers
  - 66 Part of a full house
  - 68 "If — told you once ..."
  - 69 Symphony writer
  - 70 Bear, in León
  - 71 Decide against divorce?
  - 75 Suffix with hero
  - 76 Entice
  - 78 Letter after sigma
  - 79 Legitimate in change?
  - 80 Electrolysis atoms
  - 81 Basketballer
  - 85 Mr., in India
  - 86 Houston-to-Chicago dir.
  - 87 TV's "How — Your Mother"
  - 88 Water, in Paris
  - 89 Heavy bases under statues
  - 92 Firma or cotta lead-in
  - 94 Finish doing the dishes prior to going shopping?
  - 101 Hand-talking syst.
  - 103 Scoot's cap
  - 104 Above, to bards
  - 105 Muscat citizen
  - 106 Circus beast after tipping?
  - 112 Maple syrup source
  - 114 Fashionable
  - 115 Singer of the 1969 #1 hit
  - 116 Conger, e.g.
  - 118 Utter impulsively
  - 120 "—, James!"
  - 121 Twenty cents in change?
  - 127 Straight — arrow
  - 128 Barcelona's country, to its natives
  - 129 Smell — (be leery)
  - 130 Dialogue bit
  - 131 Pad for a bird
  - 132 Gold-medal gymnast
  - 133 Light hits
  - 134 Playwright
  - 30 Like a rain forest's climate: Abbr.
  - 31 Bymes who was "Kookie"
  - 33 New Jersey river
  - 35 Letters after kays
  - 36 Bottom-line
  - 37 American spy org.
  - 39 Windows or Linux, briefly
  - 41 Goes by foot
  - 45 Answer
  - 46 Same: Prefix
  - 47 "— did not!"
  - 48 Final Hebrew letter
  - 50 Great joy
  - 51 Jack of fitness
  - 52 Kitchen strainers
  - 55 Kingly slate
  - 57 "I goofed ... big whoopi!"
  - 58 Prettifier
  - 61 Mil. rank
  - 62 Movie format
  - 63 Dress up in
  - 64 Prefix with mount
  - 65 "Not so fast!"
  - 67 Q followers
  - 71 Half of MIV
  - 72 Laughing sound
  - 73 Hunger for
  - 74 Ones getting wages
  - 77 Snaring
  - 80 As a recap
  - 82 He's no gentleman
  - 83 — Lady
  - 84 Beach lotion
  - 90 Observed
  - 91 Hullabaloo
  - 93 Pale-looking
  - 95 Since Jan. 1\*
  - 96 Taproom
  - 97 Ostrich's kin
  - 98 Persian Gulf country
  - 99 Linking up
  - 100 Pound sound
  - 102 Pantry
  - 106 Joel Coen's brother
  - 107 Unfettered
  - 108 Thompson and Watson
  - 109 Cacophony
  - 110 Entice
  - 111 Beatty of film
  - 113 Aids in crime
  - 117 Old Italian money
  - 119 Aptly named citrus fruit
  - 122 Have a bite
  - 123 "That's —" ("Inay")
  - 124 East Indian flatbread
  - 125 Hiking aid
  - 126 By birth



## Kids' Maze

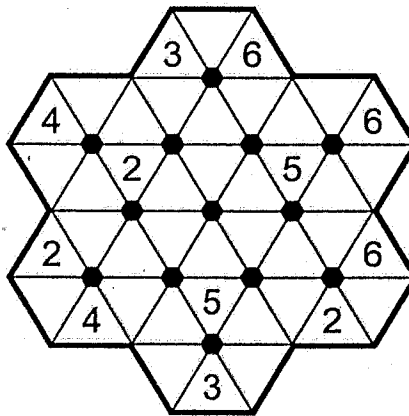


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## SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦♦

♦ Easy ♦♦ Medium ♦♦♦♦ Difficult

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		8		1	7	2		
4			3				5	
	1			8				3
	3		6					7
6		9			5	4		1
7				4			2	
	2	1	9					6
9			6				4	

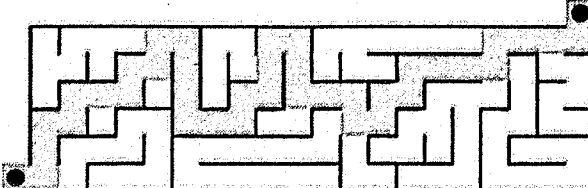
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: \*

\* Moderate \*\* Challenging

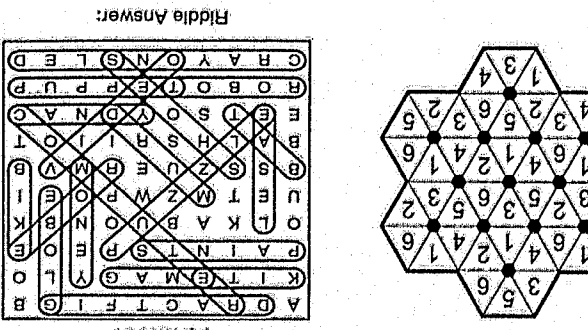
\*\*\* HOO BOY!

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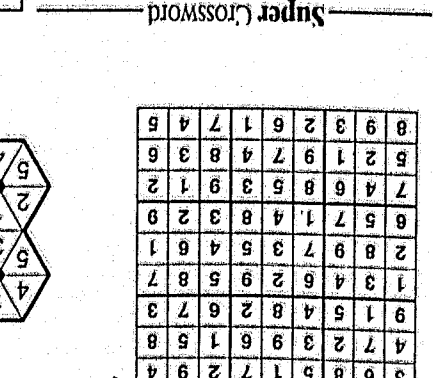
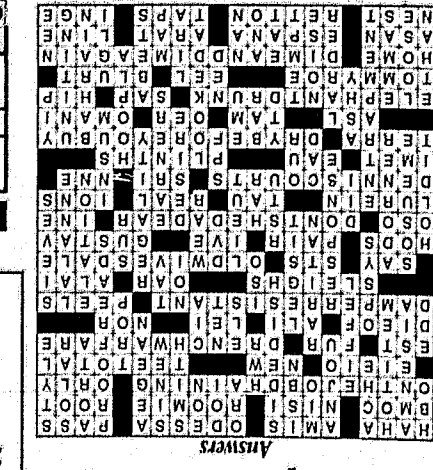


## Kids' Maze Solution

SMARTER  
Today's Word  
3. Covert; 4. Astute  
1. Limber; 2. Equal;  
solution  
SCRAMBLERS  
answer  
Cryptoquip  
A book about web sites.  
Riddle Answer:  
CRAVONSLE



Answers  
Puzzles4Kids



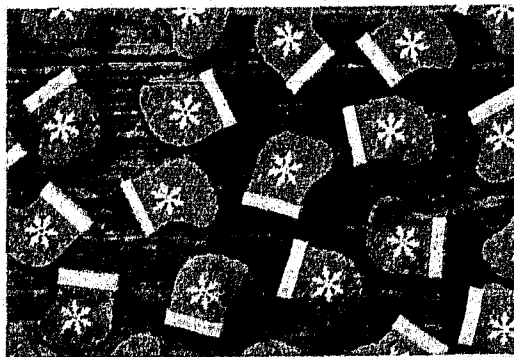
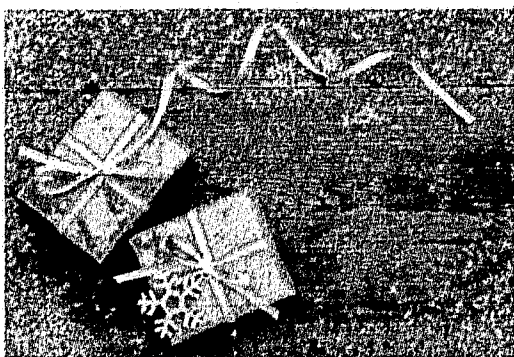
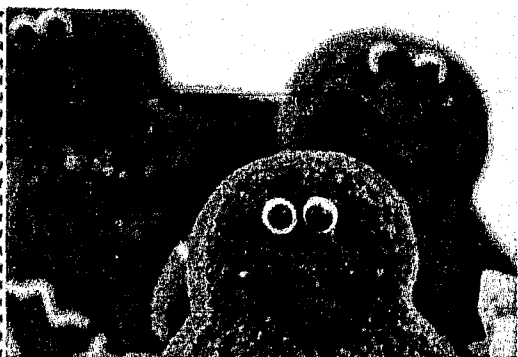
Answers  
Weekly SUDOKU

DEC

24

2015





## Great ideas for the perfect Christmas morning brunch!

### Happening Around Town

#### Christmas and New Year's Vacation Week.

December 24-January 3

Sunday River - Zipline tours, twin zips, snow tubing, ice skating, live music, and special events for all ages. FMI: 800-543-2754, [www.sundayriver.com](http://www.sundayriver.com).

#### Family Christmas Eve Service with Bells

Thursday, December 24

4 p.m., West Parish Congregational Church, Church Street, Bethel.

#### Annual Christmas Eve Service

Thursday, December 24

5 p.m., Waterford Congregational Church. This service will feature choral music, readings, and a live nativity scene with special music. All are invited. FMI: Waterford Congregational Church's Facebook page.

#### Christmas Eve Service

Thursday, December 24

6 p.m., Locke Mills Union Church.

#### Candlelight Christmas Eve Service with Choir

Thursday, December 24

7 p.m., West Parish Congregational Church, Church Street, Bethel.

#### Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Thursday, December 24

7 p.m., Bethel Alliance Church, 251 Walker's Mills Rd. (across from Telstar parking lot). Call 207-824-2289 FMI.

#### Full Moon Hike with Crime Scene at Mt. Abram Ski Area

Saturday, December 26

Classic rock with a twist. 8 p.m.-12 a.m., Loose Boots Lounge.

#### Family Peak Dinner at Sunday River

Monday, December 28

6 p.m. Ride the Chondola to the resort's mid-mountain Peak Lodge for a family dinner with special guests Eddy the Yeti and his friend, Betty. Date subject to change. FMI: 800-543-2754, [www.sundayriver.com](http://www.sundayriver.com).

#### Free Fireside Chat "The History of Maine Skiing 1870-Present"

Monday, December 28

7 p.m., Bethel Inn, Gibson Room. Free slide show with commentary about the History of Maine Skiing 1870-2015. Presented by the Ski Museum of Maine.

#### Black Diamond Entertainment presents Hoopalula's Fire Gaia

Monday, December 28

Slopeside at 7:45 & 8:15 p.m. Diane Kibbin has been performing at Sunday River for several years now. Her Hoopalula fire dancing performances have become a staple in heating up our cold winter season. Diane's energetic fire dancing routine includes various flaming objects set to music. Followed by fireworks at 8:30 p.m. FMI: 800-543-2754, [www.sundayriver.com](http://www.sundayriver.com)

#### Gould Academy "Hot Cocoa Hello" at Sunday River

Wednesday, December 30

1:30 to 2:30 p.m., slopeside at the Gould Academy Competition Program building in Sunday River's Barker basin. Gould's full-time coaches, faculty, and students will be on hand to share their academic and athletic experiences and answer any questions. More information at [gouldacademy.org](http://gouldacademy.org).

#### Skosh and Fireworks at Mt. Abram Ski Area

Thursday, December 31

Spectacular fireworks display at 9 p.m., then Skosh live in the Loose Boots Lounge from 10 p.m. - 1 a.m., \$10 cover charge. FMI: 207-875-5000, [mtabram.com](http://mtabram.com).

#### Peak Dinner at Sunday River

Thursday, December 31

New Year's Eve Party. FMI: 800-543-2754, [sundayriver.com](http://sundayriver.com)

#### New Year's Eve Celebration at Bethel Inn Resort

Thursday, December 31

Ring in the New Year at The Bethel Inn Resort in the heart of Bethel, Maine. The evening begins with a five course dinner in our Main Dining Room, 5pm - 10pm, then the party starts in The Millbrook Tavern & Grille, downstairs at The Inn through late night. An evening of dinner, dancing & cocktails with Rob Robbins! Plus, horse drawn sleigh rides, ice skating, family activities on the Bethel Common & more. FMI: 824-2175

#### Black Diamond Entertainment presents The PG-13 New Year's Eve Party at Sunday River

Thursday, December 31

Kids shouldn't have to miss out on the New Year's Eve festivities because it's past their bedtime. This is a party for all ages in the Mahoosuc Room that no one in the family will want to pass up. G-Force Laser Tag will be back again, with other attractions like a photo booth, inflatable sumo wrestling, and GaGa Ball. Kids will even be counting down to midnight (in Iceland) at 8PM. FMI: 800-543-2754, [www.sundayriver.com](http://www.sundayriver.com)

### Cinnamon Toast Balls

12 slices bread, crusts removed  
1/4 cup butter, melted  
1 tbsp cinnamon  
1 tbsp sugar

Tear each slice of bread in half. Roll each half into a ball and place on an ungreased baking sheet. Drizzle balls with melted butter. Combine cinnamon and sugar and sprinkle over balls. Bake at 350 degrees for 5 to 7 minutes. If desired, broil until lightly golden, about 2 minutes. Makes 2 dozen.

### Holiday Brunch Casserole

2 1/2 cups seasoned croutons  
2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese, divided  
1 1/2 lb. ground sausage, browned  
6 to 8 eggs  
2 3/4 cups milk, divided  
3/4 tsp dry mustard  
1/2 tsp salt  
1/8 tsp pepper  
10 1/2 oz. can cream of mushroom soup

Arrange croutons in a greased 13"x9" baking pan. Top with 1-1/2 cups shredded cheese, then with sausage. Blend together eggs and 2-1/4 cups milk in a large bowl; add mustard, salt and pepper and mix well. Pour egg mixture over sausage; cover with aluminum foil and refrigerate overnight. Just before baking, blend together remaining milk and soup and pour over egg mixture; sprinkle with remaining cheese. Bake at 350 degrees for one to 1-1/2 hours. Serves 8.

### Sugarplum Bacon

1/2 cup brown sugar, packed  
1 tsp cinnamon  
1/2 lb bacon

In a bowl, combine brown sugar and cinnamon. Cut each bacon slice in half crosswise; dredge each slice in brown sugar mixture. Twist bacon slices and place in an ungreased 13"x9" baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes, until bacon is crisp and sugar is bubbly. Place bacon on aluminum foil to cool. Serve at room temperature. Makes 8 servings.

### Egg & Bacon Quesadillas

2 tbsp butter, divided  
4 8 inch flour tortillas  
5 eggs, beaten  
1/2 cup milk  
2 8 oz. pkgs. shredded Cheddar cheese  
6 to 8 slices bacon, crisply cooked and crumbled  
Optional: salsa, sour cream

Lightly spread about 1/4 teaspoon butter on one side of each tortilla; set aside. In a bowl, beat eggs and milk until combined. Pour egg mixture into a hot, lightly greased skillet; cook and stir over medium heat until done. Remove scrambled eggs to a dish and keep warm. Melt remaining butter in the skillet and add a tortilla, buttered-side down. Layer with 1/4 of the cheese, 1/2 of the eggs and 1/2 of the bacon. Top with 1/4 of the cheese and a tortilla, buttered-side up. Cook one to 2 minutes on each side, until golden. Repeat with remaining ingredients. Cut each into 4 wedges and serve with salsa and sour cream, if desired. Serves 4.

### Cinnamon-Maple Apples

2 tbsp butter  
3 to 4 apples, peeled, cored and sliced into wedges  
1/4 cup maple syrup  
1/4 cup brown sugar, packed  
1/4 tsp cinnamon  
1/4 tsp nutmeg

In a skillet over medium heat, melt butter and add sliced apples. Toss to coat; simmer until apples begin to soften. Add remaining ingredients to skillet. Simmer over medium heat, stirring often, until sauce is thickened and bubbly. Serves 4.

### Bacon & Egg Potato Skins

2 baking potatoes  
4 eggs, beaten  
1 to 2 tsp butter  
salt and pepper to taste  
1/4 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese  
1/4 cup shredded Cheddar cheese  
4 slices bacon, crisply cooked and crumbled  
Optional: sour cream, chopped fresh chives

Bake potatoes at 400 degrees for one hour, until tender. Slice potatoes in half lengthwise; scoop out centers and reserve for another recipe. Place potato skins on a lightly greased baking sheet. Bake at 400 degrees for 6 to 8 minutes, until crisp. Remove from oven. In a skillet over medium heat, scramble eggs in butter just until they begin to set. Add salt and pepper; remove from heat. Spoon equal amounts of eggs, cheese and bacon over each potato skin. Reduce heat to 350 degrees and bake for 10 minutes, until cheese is melted and eggs are completely set. Garnish with sour cream and chives, if desired. Makes 4 servings.

### Brown Sugar French Toast

1 cup brown sugar, packed  
1/2 cup butter  
2 tbsp corn syrup  
1 loaf French bread, cut into 1-inch slices  
5 eggs  
1 1/2 cup milk  
1 tsp vanilla extract

Place first 3 ingredients in medium-size saucepan and heat over medium heat. Spray 13"x9" baking dish with non-stick vegetable oil. Pour hot mixture into baking dish. Place sliced bread over mixture and push bread slices closely together. Beat eggs; add milk and vanilla and mix slightly. Pour egg mixture over bread, covering each slice well. Cover the baking dish with plastic wrap and refrigerate overnight. The next morning, uncover and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Serves 4 to 6.

### Golden Hashbrown Casserole

6 eggs, beaten  
12 oz. can evaporated milk  
1 tsp salt  
1/2 tsp pepper  
30 oz. pkg frozen shredded hashbrowns  
8 oz. pkg shredded Cheddar cheese  
1 onion, chopped  
1 green pepper, chopped  
1 cup cooked ham, diced

Whisk eggs, milk, salt and pepper in a large bowl. Add remaining ingredients; mix well. Pour mixture into a greased 13"x9" baking pan. Bake, uncovered, at 350 degrees for 60 to 65 minutes, or until eggs are set. Makes 10 to 12 servings.

### Yummy Apple-Cinnamon Ring

3 8 oz. tubes refrigerated biscuits, quartered  
1 cup sugar  
1 tsp cinnamon  
2 apples, cored, peeled and chopped  
1/2 cup chopped pecans  
1/2 cup butter, melted

Toss quartered biscuits with remaining ingredients except butter; fill a greased and floured Bundt\* pan with biscuit mixture. Pour butter over top. Bake at 375 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes. Let cool for 5 minutes; invert onto a serving platter. Makes 10 to 12 servings.

### Creamy Orange Glorious

20 oz. bottle carbonated water  
16 oz. can frozen orange juice concentrate  
1 pint heavy cream  
1/3 cup powdered sugar  
2 1/2 tsp vanilla extract  
15 ice cubes

Combine all ingredients in a blender; blend until smooth. Pour into glasses and serve immediately. Makes 10 servings.

### Vanilla Coffee

1 1/2 cups milk  
1 tbsp sugar  
1/2 tsp cinnamon  
3 cups hot, strong brewed coffee  
1 1/2 tsp vanilla extract  
Garnish: whipped topping, additional cinnamon

Combine milk, sugar and cinnamon in a saucepan and stir well. Cook over medium heat for 2 minutes, or until sugar dissolves. Remove from heat; stir in coffee and vanilla. Pour into mugs; garnish with whipped topping and sprinkle with cinnamon. Serves 4.

### Rich Hot Chocolate

14 oz can sweetened condensed milk  
7 1/2 cups milk or water  
1 1/2 tsp vanilla extract  
1/2 cup baking cocoa  
1/8 tsp salt  
Garnish: mini marshmallows

In a slow cooker, combine condensed milk, milk or water and vanilla. Add cocoa and salt; stir until smooth. Cover and cook on low setting for 4 hours, or on high setting for 2 hours, until very hot. Stir again. Ladle into mugs; top with marshmallows. Makes 8 to 10 servings.



Copyright Gooseberry Patch

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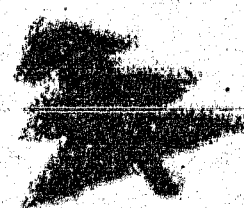
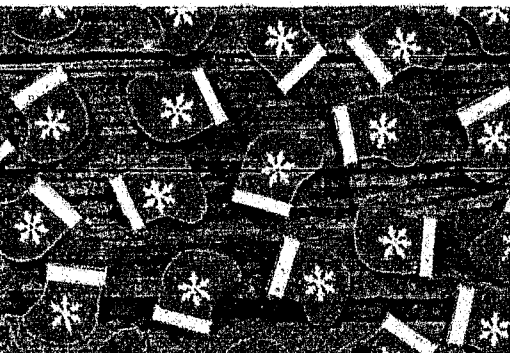
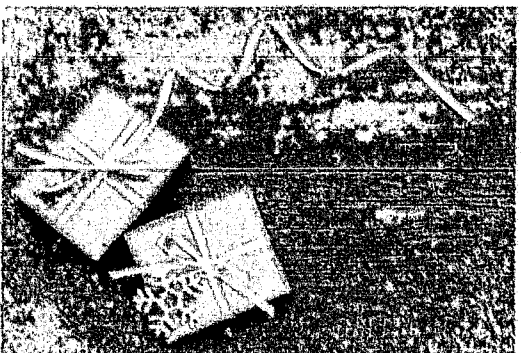
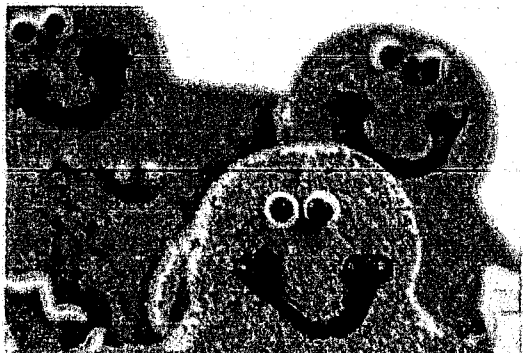
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Sleigh Rides: 5-7:30pm Dinner: 5:30-9pm  
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Loin, Mediterranean Shrimp Couscous, Braised Angus Short  
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**Christmas Day**  
Sleigh Rides: 5pm-7:30pm Buffet: 5:30pm-9pm  
A grand Christmas buffet with traditional entrees including:  
Hickory Smoked Ham, Herb marinated Turkey Breast,  
Salmon and Smoked Scallop Roulade, Marcarpone and  
Pumpkin Ravioli

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Then, Rob Robbins is back! 9pm in The Millbrook Tavern, Rob will  
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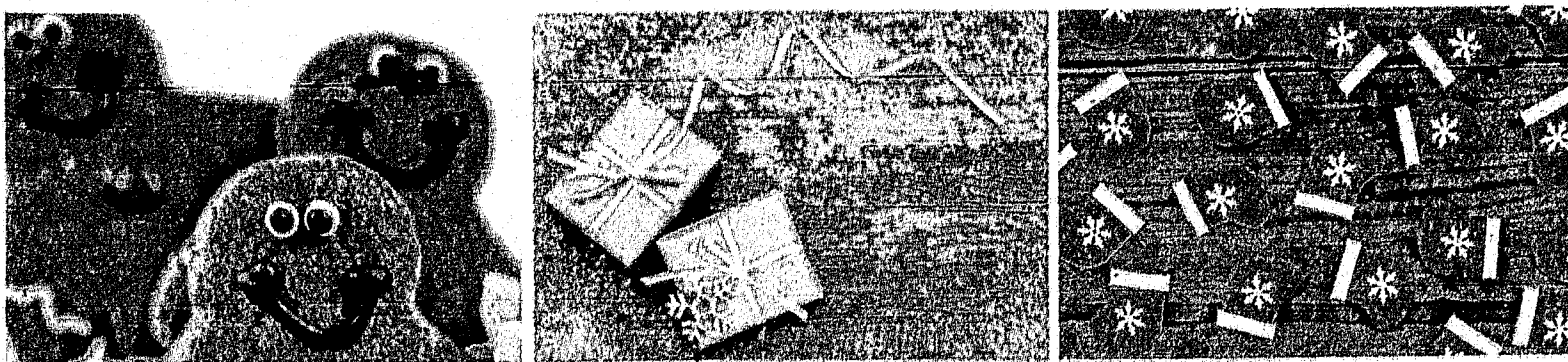
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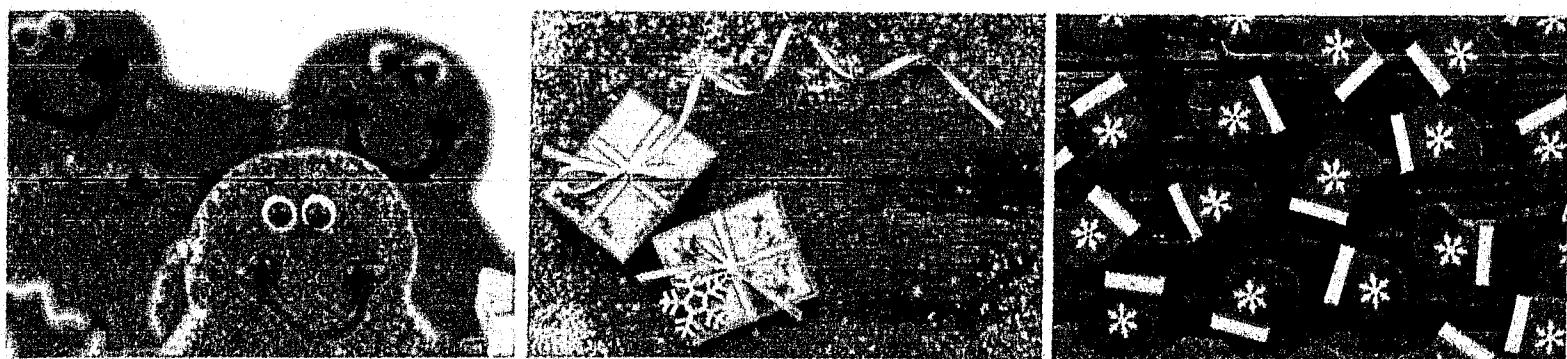
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## The history behind some beloved Christmas songs

Holiday traditions vary from family to family, but one component of the holidays that seems to be universally enjoyed is a good Christmas song. Music is piped throughout malls and stores to entertain shoppers, and favorite tunes may be on the radio or streamed through a digital music service as families decorate their homes.

Many people may love Christmas songs and carols, but not everyone shares the same favorites. Thankfully, there's no shortage of material when it comes to Christmas songs, ensuring there's something for everyone.

In 2014, Time magazine researched records at the U.S. Copyright Office to determine the most popular and most recorded Christmas songs since 1978, when copyright registrations were digitized. The following are some of the more beloved holiday tunes and a bit of history about each song.

**"Silent Night":** One of the most rerecorded songs in history (733 versions since 1978), "Silent Night" was composed in 1818 by Franz Xaver Gruber and put to lyrics by Joseph Mohr. It was first performed on Christmas Eve at St. Nicholas parish church in Oberndorf, a village in Austria. Today's version is a slow lullaby, but it's believed the original was a dance-like tune in 6/8 time.

**"O Holy Night":** This popular song was composed by Adolphe Adam in 1847 to a French poem titled, "Minuit, chre^tiens (Midnight, Christians)." Many notable performers, including Perry Como, Celine Dion, Josh Groban, Michael Crawford, and Lea Michele, have performed "O Holy Night."

**"Silver Bells":** Now a Christmas classic, "Silver Bells" originally was written for the Bob Hope film, "The Lemon Drop Kid." Songwriter Jay Livingston wanted to title the song "Tinkle Bell," but his wife dissuaded him from using the word "tinkle."

**"White Christmas":** Irving Berlin believed his song "White Christmas" would be an instant hit. His prediction was correct, especially after singer Bing Crosby recorded it.



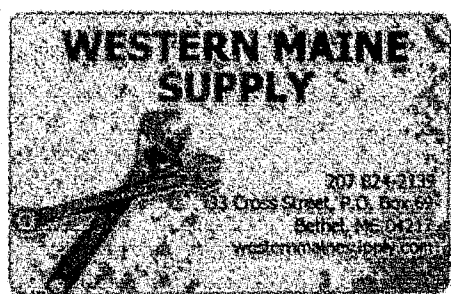
**"Jingle Bells":** Although it has become one of the more popular Christmas songs, "Jingle Bells" really was written for Thanksgiving. It's also one of the oldest holiday songs of American origin. James Lord Pierpont, the song's author, was inspired by the famous sleigh races of Medford, Massachusetts.

**"Do You Hear What I Hear":** Noel Regney wrote this song as a call to peace during the Cuban Missile Crisis. The original context has long been forgotten, and "Do You Hear What I Hear" is now a staple of holiday celebrations.

**"Santa Claus is Coming to Town":** James Gillespie wrote this tune while riding a subway and reminiscing about his childhood with his brother. It became a hit after being performed at the famed Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

**"The Christmas Song":** This classic Christmas song was written in 1944 by Bob Wells and Mel Tormé. It's usually subtitled "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire." The song was written during a heat wave as a way to think cool thoughts. It only took 40 minutes to write the music and some of the lyrics. Nat King Cole's rendition of the song is among the more popular versions.

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#### WEST PARIS LIBRARY PHOTO EXHIBITION

The West Paris Library has an exhibit of Stephanie Emery's photographs of our Western National Parks. Stephanie grew up in West Paris, just across the field from the West Paris Library. She has been taking photos for fun for as long as she can remember, starting with a Kodak 110 film camera given to her by her grandparents, Joe and Leone Penley. After teaching instrumental music for several years, she decided she needed some adventure and took a trip with a tour company called Adventure Bus. She fell in love with that style of travel and our National Parks. For the past 12 years she has been running that company and its tours. Her travels with Adventure Bus have taken her to all 50 states and 45 of the 50 National Parks. On Thursday evening, Jan. 7, at 6:30 p.m. Stephanie will present a talk and show pictures of her adventures. She describes her job as "spending my days in beautiful places like the ones you see in this exhibit." Library hours are from 1:30 - 6 p.m. on Monday and Friday, 1:30 - 7 p.m. on Wednesday, and 10 - 2 p.m. on Saturday. For more information please call the library at 674-2004.

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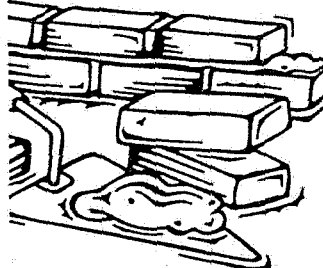
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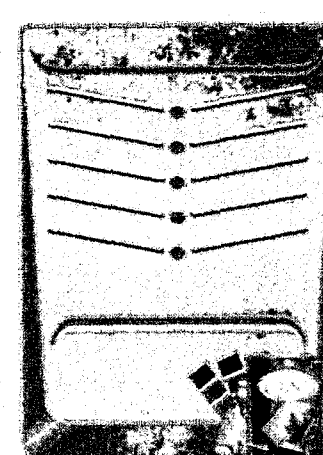
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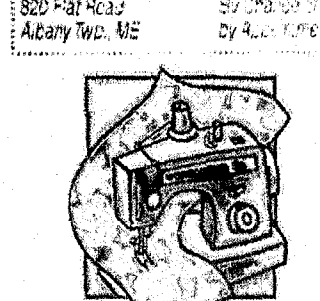
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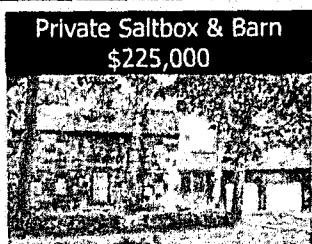
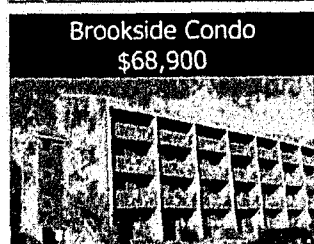
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## Obituaries



ERNEST F. MASON  
12/4/1938 - 12/17/2015

Ernest Francis Mason, 77 of Bethel passed away Dec. 17, 2015 at Maine Medical Center surrounded by his family.

He married Anita (Sprague) Mason in 1968, and together they created a very large loving family. Ernest worked as a hard working woodsman from the time he was 14 until he retired. He was well known as one of the best in this trade, a job he was proud to do that supported his family.

He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed several outdoor activities. He and his family spent most of their summers in Azicoch. He loved the Northern Maine area, and had many favorite fishing/hunting places. He liked to go to Greene to spend time with his siblings.

He enjoyed NASCAR racing, spending time with family, cookouts, his pets, hunting, fishing, camping, and his boat. He really loved being a Grampa/Papa to his beloved grandchildren: Nicholas, Deanna, Eric, Kimberlei, Bronson, Lucas, Kevin, Taylor, Brooklyn, Darrin, Brooklyn, Leah, Morgan, Addy, Connor, and Avery. They were his pride and joy and he spoke of them often.

Ernest loved to share sto-

ries of the past, some of his favorites were of his time racing at Oxford Plains speedway when there was only a dirt track there, numerous hunting and fishing stories, stories of working in the woods with Roland and Doug Walker and Chuck Johnson.

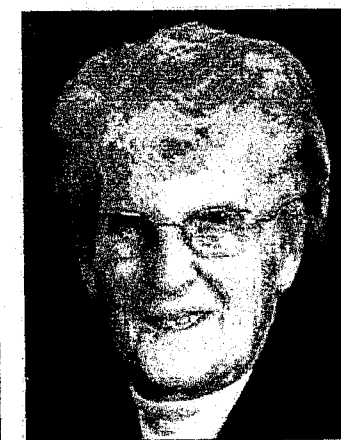
We feel fortunate that we went on a recent family camping trip to Seboomook in the summer of 2015 and have many fond memories of him here.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Anita, and children: Lori Dean and husband Gary, Bill Mason and wife Claire, Ernest Mason and companion Sheila, Linda Chase and husband Brian, Tammy Nguyen and husband Cong, Carrie Kimball and husband Amos, Mary Mason and fiancé Joe, David Mason and Luke Mason.

His sisters: Eleanor Flanders, Shirley Bitetti and husband Joe, Virginia Curtis, Pat Greene and husband Dennis. Brothers: Gary Mason, Delbert Mason and wife Marilyn.

He is also survived by many nieces and nephews. Ernest was predeceased by his parents Alfred and Bernice Mason, infant daughter Tina Mason, brothers Richard and Albert Mason, and sister Jeanette Wajda.

His celebration of life will be held at the Bethel Alliance church at 3 p.m. on Dec. 27.



EVELYN K. MAXFIELD

Evelyn K. Maxfield, age 82, died Wednesday, Dec. 16 at the Hospice House in Auburn.

Evelyn was born on June 25, 1933, daughter of Hazel and Merton Kimball. She grew up in South Waterford and graduated from Bridgton Academy, Class of 1952. On Oct. 4, 1952 she married the love of her

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life, Durward H. Maxfield of Harrison and they made Harrison their home. Evelyn was an active member of her community, long-time member of the Bridgton Alliance Church serving her Savior and church family in many capacities and a member of the Gideons International Auxiliary. She was a gifted artist, sharing her paintings with many people she loved. Her love of the outdoors was evident by her enjoyment of hiking, snowshoeing, gardening and the way she "kept their yard." Her family was her greatest joy. She was proud of them and stayed very interested in all of their activities.

Evelyn is survived by her loving husband of 63 years, son and daughter-in-law, Vern and Brenda, two granddaughters, Laura (Brian) Nichols, Katie (Tim) Huggins, four great-grandchildren, Madeline, Mason and Matthew Huggins and Victoria Evelyn Nichols, and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by their son Kenneth, her parents, sisters Edna and Ethel, brothers Merritt and William.

Those who wish to make contributions in her memory may send them to Gideons International, Oxford Camp, PO Box 142, Norway, Maine 04268; Bridgton Alliance Church, 368 Harrison Road, Bridgton 04009; or Hospice House, Stetson Road, Auburn, Maine 04210.

Arrangements are by Cliff Gray Cremation & Funeral Services, 60 Andrews Road, Bryant Pond.



DAVID A. WILLARD

David Alan Willard, M.D., FACP, FACE, of Marlton N.J., and formerly of Princeton N.J. and Bethel, died December 12, 2015. Dr. Willard, 77, a widely respected and beloved physician, practiced internal medicine and endocrinology in Princeton for more than three decades.

David was born on June 3, 1938 in Lewiston to John Jay and Melva (Greely)

Willard. He leaves his second wife of 15 years, Margaret (Peg) McDonald Willard, of Marlton N.J.; his four children and their spouses: Edward (Ted) Willard (Courtney) of Pilot Mountain, N.C.; Carol Sullivan (Joseph) of Yardley, Pa.; Catherine Jenks (Brendon) Jenks of Prairie Village, Kan.; Sarah Steinhauer (Scott) of Princeton N.J.; 10 grandchildren; and his first wife, Patricia (Stewart) Willard of West Windsor N.J. He also leaves four sisters, Christine Bennett, Nancy Willard, Ruth Feeney, and Mary Corkum in Maine, and a brother, Ronald Willard, in Springfield, Va. David is predeceased by his parents and his brother, John Jay Willard, Jr.

Dr. Willard grew up in Bethel, where he graduated from Gould Academy in 1956. His 'Joy Cottage' on Lake Christopher in Bryant Pond was his beloved vacation spot. He was a devoted member of the Princeton University Class of 1960 and his love of Princeton football and basketball endured throughout his life.

Following graduation from the Tufts University Medical School Class in 1964, internship and residencies at the Maine Medical Center in Portland, ME, and the Boston Veterans' Administration Hospital, and a summer internship at the Public Health Hospitals in Anchorage and Kotzebue, Alaska, David served two years as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force in Grand Forks, N.D. After a brief endocrinology fellowship at the University Hospital in Boston he settled into his private practice.

Dr. Willard was the first Board-Certified Endocrinologist in Central New Jersey and served as president of the Mercer County Medical Society. He founded one of the first Independent Practice Associations, oversaw pharmaceutical studies for Bristol Meyers Squibb and served as a consultant at the North Princeton Developmental Center. In the 1990s, he traveled to Russia as a physician in an American clinic.

For more than two decades he served as Graduate Chairman for Terrace Club, at Princeton University and was instrumental in many capital improvements made there. He also served as a member of the Medical Center of

Princeton Board of Trustees and the Trinity Counseling Service Board of Directors.

In 2000, he was quoted as saying that he was headed "into the fourth quarter with a small lead." That lead faded in 2007 when he was diagnosed with

Alzheimer's disease. He passed away from complications of the disease.

Donations may be made to Terrace Club, Princeton University; Gould Academy in Bethel; the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Cherry Hill, N.J.; or the Alzheimer's Association.

## Sports

### THS Boys' Basketball

Telstar 53, Oak Hill 45; Dec. 17-Telstar scorers: Tanner Wheeler (23); Blake Rothwell (7); Aaron Vermette (2); Avry Griffin (10); Jarrett Bean (9); Jeremiah Richardson (2). Three pointers: Rothwell, Bean.

### TMS Boys' Basketball

Mt. Valley 71, Telstar 18; Dec. 16-Telstar got run over by Mt. Valley MS 71-18 for the second loss of the season. Finn McLaughlin and Devin Cole-Mason scored 5 points each. The team is now 1-2 for the season. - Coach Tim O'Connor

Telstar 31, St. Dom's 26; Dec. 17-Telstar improved their record to 2-2 by defeating St. Dom's Middle School team by the score of 31-26. Devin Cole-Mason led the scoring with 9 points, Finn McLaughlin added 8 points, and Marvel Ayotte had 4 points. Scoring 11 points in the first quarter and 10 points in the third quarter and good defense were keys to the win. Good job team! - Coach Tim O'Connor

Dirigo 30, Telstar 22; Dec. 10-Telstar J.V. led at the half 18-15 but were unable to hold the lead throughout the second half. The final score was Dirigo 30, Telstar 22. High scorers for Telstar were Darrin LeClair and Asa Hall with 6 points each. It was a nicely played game by our young team as Dirigo has a good basketball reputation.

Mt. Valley 35, Telstar 25; Dec. 16 -The Telstar J.V. boys played a spirited game but came up short on the scoreboard 35-25. Once again the boys came out and played a tough, aggressive defense against a very talented Mt. Valley squad. Asa Hall, Mario DeVivo, Shane Ojeda, Braydon Stevens and Myles Lilly were stalwart on defense. High scorers for Telstar were Braydon Stevens with 6 points and Mario DeVivo with 5 points. The next game for the up and coming Telstar M.S.J.V. boys will be played against Dirigo on Jan. 19 at 3:30 p.m. Come on out and see our exciting, developing team.

### TMS Girls' Basketball

Mt. Valley 41, Telstar 31; Dec. 16-Telstar scorers were Luci Rothwell with 16 points, Caroline Newell with 6, Calla Orino 3, Aneah Bartlett, Maddline Hallett, and Angel Cintron with two each. - Coach Dave Berry

St. Dom's 58, Telstar 41; Dec. 17-A group of both varsity and junior varsity middle school girls basketball players lost to St. Dom's. Rebel scorers were Aneah Bartlett 12, Luci Rothwell 9, Calla Orino 6, Ella Kellog, Caroline Newell, and Lydia Bennett with 4 each and sixth grader Grace Boothby scoring her first Rebel basket with 2. The Rebels are off until Jan. 4 with a home game against Buckfield. -Coach Dave Berry

### MV Rec Basketball

With the holidays upon us, this Sunday's past games will be last of 2015, with games resuming on Jan. 3. Archies raised their record to 2-1 with a solid 88-67 win over M and M Carpentry, who are now also 2-1. For the winners, Cody St. Germain notched 29 points, Glen Dubois hit for 19, Brett Archibald had 15 and Steve Lizotte added 12 more. M an M's Matt Zetts shot a game high 37 points, while Joe Gaudreau added 15 and Matt Newell chipped in with 14 points. Tommy Guns Juwan Daniels fired in 36 points and led their team to a 108-105 overtime win over Bethel. Tommy Guns (2-1) was aided by Dave St. Germain with 17 points, Brandon Bennett 14 and Josh Thomas and Roosevelt Spearman with 12 each. Bethel's effort was valiant, but in vain. They had 6 players in double figures, Sean Caddigan 27 (6 threes), Leo Files and Ryan Savage with 14, Ryan Kimball 13, Kevin Bean 12 and Dom Haines with 11 points.

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